

JOURNAL
OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE

OF THE
Methodist Protestant Church,

HELD AT

Steubenville, Ohio, May 2, 1854.



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1854.

tendered to the President and Secretaries, for the satisfactory performance of their respective duties during the session.

Brother Whitfield offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we acknowledge with fraternal regard, the courtesy extended to us by the pastors and congregations of this city, in inviting us to fill their respective pulpits.

The report of Committee on Boundaries, proposing a new Conference district, along the western limits of our country, was again called up, and on motion adopted as follows:

"The Committee on Boundaries recommend to this General Conference to set off Oregon, with Upper and Lower California, as an Annual Conference district, to be known by the name of Oregon and California Conference."

On motion of brother Thomson, the report (No. 2) of Committee on Orders, submitted May 13th, was again taken up.

Brother Whitfield offered the following amendment to the report, which after some debate was agreed to.

"*Provided*, that when it is impracticable for the applicant to attend, of which the Annual Conference shall judge, the Annual Conference may appoint a committee of examination in his neighborhood or circuit, upon whose recommendation he may be ordained in the interval of the Annual Conference, as provided in the Discipline."

Brother Burns moved to amend so as to provide that the examination shall precede the election and that the President shall be chairman of the committee, which amendment was also agreed to.

The report as amended was adopted.

Brother Morrison offered the following resolutions which were adopted:

Resolved, That the Book Agent be requested to have the Minutes of this General Conference published in pamphlet form.

Resolved, That the Book Agent and Book Directory be requested to take into consideration the propriety and expediency of publishing, in a cheap and substantial form, the Minutes of the Conventions of 1828 and 1830, and of the several sessions of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, up to this date, and to publish such a work if they deem it advisable.

Brother Paris offered a resolution directing the Book Committee to have a Catechism for the use of children drawn up, embodying the fundamental doctrines of our church, to publish the same, and keep it for sale at the Book Concern, which resolution was, on motion, laid on the table.

The Minutes of the night session were read and approved.

Brother Starr moved that the Conference adjourn *sine die*, which was agreed to.

After a brief and appropriate address by the President, singing and prayer by brother Cowl, the members of the Conference separated at a few minutes before 12 o'clock at night.

The next General Conference to be held at Steubenville, Ohio, commencing on the first Tuesday in May, A. D. 1854.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SIXTH GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH.

TUESDAY, May 2, 1854.

The Conference was called to order at 9 o'clock, A. M., when, on motion of br. Ragan, br. John Burns, of Muskingum, was appointed President *pro tem*.

Religious exercises, consisting of reading the Scriptures, singing and prayer, were conducted by br. J. S. Reese.

On motion of br. E. Y. Reese, br. W. H. Wills, of North Carolina, was appointed Secretary *pro tem*.

On motion, the certificates of the delegates present were then read, when from these and other sources the following list of members of Conference was made out:

DELEGATES ELECT TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE, 1854.

DISTRICTS.	MINISTERS.	LAYMEN.
Maine,	David Hill,	Abner Ramsdell,
Boston,	William Tozer,	William Wyman,
Genesee,	S. M. Short,	William N. Burt,
Onondaga,	J. S. Robinson,	J. W. Little,
New York and Vermont,	J. J. Smith,	D. C. Jordan,
Pennsylvania,	R. E. Gormon,	J. Moss,
New Jersey,	T. T. Heiss,	T. W. Stanger,
Maryland,	J. S. Reese,	George Vickers,
"	E. Y. Reese,	Wesley Starr,
"	S. B. Southerland,	C. W. Button,
"	J. Varden,	W. D. Massey,
"	W. Roby,	J. B. Thomas,
Virginia,	R. B. Thomson,	H. B. Woodhouse,
"	J. G. Whitfield,	James M. Smith,
"	W. W. Walker,	M. Langhorne,
North Carolina,	William H. Wills,	A. Nicholson,
"	John F. Speight,	M. C. Whitaker,
"	Alson Gray,	Calvin Johnston,
South Carolina,	John Burdine,	R. A. Cates,
Georgia,	Isaiah C. Wallace,	John Webb,
Alabama,	O. H. Shaver,	B. Hall,
"	James F. Smith,	John P. Cook,
"	A. McCaine,	E. Harrison,
Mississippi,	James Meek,	W. B. Lott,
Louisiana,	G. W. Johnston,	Samuel Johnston,
Texas,	H. M. A. Cassidy,	David Lane,
Tennessee,	Jos. Camper,	J. L. Armstrong,
West Tennessee,	W. D. Wilkerson,	J. M. Hayes,
Indiana,	Fletcher Tevis,	J. J. Amos,
Wabash,	J. C. Wright,	N. T. Catterlin,
Pittsburg,	George Brown,	William Miller,
"	John Clarke,	J. T. Dagg,

DISTRICTS.	MINISTERS.	LAYMEN
Pittsburg,	George Brown,	
"	John Clarke,	
"	P. T. Laishley,	William Miller,
"	John Scott,	
Ohio,	A. H. Bassett,	D. C. Carson,
"	J. M. Flood,	J. Ashton,
"	William B. Evans,	Shadford Easton,
Wabash,	J. C. Wright,	N. T. Catterlin,
Indiana,	Fletcher Tevis,	J. J. Amos,
Pennsylvania,	R. E. Gormon,	J. Moss,
Boston,	William Tozer,	William Wyman,
Maryland,	J. S. Reese,	George Vickers,
"	E. Y. Reese,	Wesley Starr,
"	J. Varden,	C. W. Button,
"	S. B. Southerland,	
Virginia,	R. B. Thomson,	H. B. Woodhouse,
"	J. G. Whitfield,	J. M. Smith,
"	W. W. Walker,	
North Carolina,	W. H. Wills,	A. Nicholson,
"		M. C. Whitaker,
"		C. Johnston,
Tennessee,	Joseph Camper,	J. L. Armstrong,
Missouri,	Samuel Hughes,	
South Carolina,	John Burdine,	
Onondaga,	J. S. Robinson,	
West Tennessee,	W. D. Wilkerson,	J. M. Hayes,
Genesee,	S. M. Short,	
Michigan,	J. L. Turner,	T. Hinman,
Georgia,	Isaiah C. Wallace,	John Webb,
New York and Vermont,	J. J. Smith,	
Illinois,	J. P. Johnston,	
Alabama,	O. H. Shaver,	
"	James F. Smith,	
Platte,	Reddick Horn,	
North Illinois,	Daniel Young,	William Cullen,

Districts represented, 23 ; Ministers present, 37 ; Laymen, 25.

Br. Moss, a lay alternate from Pennsylvania, was admitted to a seat, from testimony adduced before the Conference, in the absence of a certificate. On motion of br. Brown, br. J. J. Amos was also admitted as a lay delegate from Indiana, under circumstances similar to the foregoing.

On motion of br. Ragan, br. J. Ashton was received as a lay delegate from the Ohio District.

On motion, a committee of three, consisting of brs. Ragan, Whitfield and E. Y. Reese, was appointed by the Chair to prepare Rules of Order for the government of the Conference.

On motion of br. Tozer, it was determined that the election of the permanent officers of this body take place on to-morrow, at 10 o'clock A. M.

On motion, the bar of the house was fixed to be within the limits of the line of centre posts.

Brs. Collier, Dorsey and Hanna were, on motion, appointed a committee to arrange the appointments for preaching during the session of Conference.

The committee on "Rules of Order" reported a series, which, after

DISTRICTS.	MINISTERS.	LAYMEN.
Pittsburg,	John Scott,	C. W. Newlon,
"	P. T. Laishley,	J. L. Phillips,
Muskingum,	D. B. Dorsey,	John Davis,
"	Z. Ragan,	T. A. Reed,
"	John Burns,	Francis Scott,
"	George Clancy,	T. Hanna,
Ohio,	A. H. Bassett,	D. C. Carson,
"	J. M. Flood,	J. Ashton,
"	William B. Evans,	Shadford Easton,
Illinois,	J. P. Johnston,	S. K. Swingley,
North Illinois,	Daniel Young,	William Cullen,
South Illinois,	James Edmonson,	Nelson Moore,
Missouri,	Samuel Hughes,	J. Carpenter,
Michigan,	J. L. Turner,	T. Hinman,
Wisconsin,	S. P. Huntingdon,	W. J. Ensign,
Iowa,	William Patterson,	William Pettitt,
Arkansas,	J. G. Walker,	P. P. Vanhooose,
Platte,	Reddick Horn,	J. Coleman,
Oregon,	E. E. Parrish,	G. Parrish.

Huntsville and Florida Districts not heard from.

The following members were present and answered to their names, being 31 in number, at the opening of the session :

DISTRICTS.	MINISTERS.	LAYMEN.
Muskingum,	D. B. Dorsey,	John Davis,
"	Z. Ragan,	Thomas A. Reed,
"	John Burns,	
"	George Clancy,	
Pittsburg,	George Brown,	William Miller,
"	John Clarke,	
"	John Scott,	
Virginia,	J. G. Whitfield,	H. B. Woodhouse,
"	R. B. Thomson,	
"	W. W. Walker,	
North Carolina,	W. H. Wills,	A. Nicholson,
"		M. C. Whitaker,
"		Calvin Johnston,
Pennsylvania,	R. E. Gormon,	J. Moss,
Tennessee,		J. L. Armstrong,
South Carolina,	John Burdine,	
Missouri,	Samuel Hughes,	
Ohio,		J. Ashton,
Indiana,	J. S. Reese,	J. J. Amos,
Maryland,	E. Y. Reese,	George Vickers,
"	S. B. Southerland,	
"	William Tozer,	William Wyman.
Boston,		

The following list embraces those who were present at the opening and subsequently during the session :

DELEGATES IN ATTENDANCE ON GENERAL CONFERENCE, 1854.

DISTRICTS.	MINISTERS.	LAYMEN.
Muskingum,	D. B. Dorsey,	John Davis,
"	Z. Ragan,	Thomas A. Reed,
"	John Burns,	Francis Scott,
"	George Clancy,	T. Hanna,

5. Literary Committee. Number proposed was 11, finally modified by adopting the number of 7 members.

An amendment was here offered to change the term "Literary" to that of "College," which prevailed; so it is known as the "College Committee."

Br. Laishley moved a reconsideration of the last question; but the Conference refused to reconsider.

6. Committee on "the Church Periodical and Book concern," composed of 9 members.

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|----------------------------------|---------|------------|
| 7. Means of Grace, | - - - - | 3 members. |
| 8. Finance, | - - - - | 7 " |
| 9. On Orders, | - - - - | 5 " |
| 10. " Sabbath Schools, | - - - - | 5 " |
| 11. " Home and Foreign Missions, | - - - - | 7 " |

Br. Bassett offered the following: "Resolved that a Committee of 3 be appointed to consider and recommend to the General Conference what shall be the ratio of representation to the next ensuing General Conference." Adopted. This Committee therefore stands the 12th in order. Number of members, 3.

Br. Bassett also offered the following: "Resolved that a Committee of 3 be appointed, to be called the 'Committee on Statistics,' to which Committee the representatives from all the Annual Conference Districts shall be requested to communicate in writing a statement of the statistics of their respective districts." Adopted. This Committee therefore is the 13th in order, and known as "Committee on Statistics," 3 in number.

The communication from J. A. Kennedy received this morning, and laid on the table, was, on motion of br. J. S. Reese, taken up, and after being read, a motion was made by br. Clancy that it be referred to the Executive Committee. The reference was ordered.

Br. Tozer moved to amend the rules of order, by requiring "the roll to be called at the opening of each session," which motion prevailed.

Br. Ragan stated that the rules of order probably could not be printed in two days. Motion was made that we therefore dispense with the printing. This motion was lost.

Br. Catterlin proposed to amend the rules of order by inserting that "no member of Conference shall withdraw from its sittings without permission." An amendment, offered by br. J. Scott, to insert "finally" after the word "sittings," was adopted. The question then coming up on the motion as thus amended, was, after debate, rejected.

Br. J. S. Reese offered a resolution thus: "Resolved, that no member of this Conference shall be permitted to absent himself from any of the sessions of this body, before the final adjournment, without permission of the Conference." Adopted.

Br. Woodhouse offered the following: "Resolved, that a committee of 5 laymen be appointed by the chair, to take into consideration the propriety of increasing the disciplinary allowance of our itinerant ministers, preachers, their wives and children."

some debate, were adopted. Br. Ragan was subsequently appointed to have 100 copies of these rules printed for the use of the Conference.

Br. Clancy moved that the hours of adjournment be $\frac{1}{4}$ -12 M., and 5 P. M., each day. This motion did not prevail.

Br. Tozer moved a committee of three on "Credentials," which motion was likewise negatived.

A communication from J. A. Kennedy, of Washington City, asking the Conference to take into consideration the propriety of amending the Discipline touching the property question, as on pages 18 and 71 of Constitution and Discipline, was presented by br. J. S. Reese, which on being read was laid on the table. (See Appendix, No. 1.)

Brs. F. Scott and T. Hanna presented their certificates, and were received as lay delegates from the Muskingum District.

On motion, at 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ o'clock, Conference adjourned. Prayer by br. Brown.

[AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference called to order by the President, and services conducted by br. Whitfield.

After the call of the roll, certificates were presented, and the following brethren recognized as members: J. M. Flood and Wm. B. Evans, Ministers from Ohio; P. T. Laishley, Minister from Pittsburg; and N. T. Catterlin, lay delegate from Wabash District.

On motion, br. D. C. Carson, lay delegate from Ohio, was received as a member of the Conference.

Br. Dorsey offered a verbal resolution, that the members of this Conference agree to fill the appointments assigned them by the Committee of Arrangements.

Br. Ragan offered an amendment, which was ruled to be a substitute. After some debate, the resolution of br. Dorsey was withdrawn.

On motion, brs. Collier and Hamilton, together with all other brethren who may visit the Conference, were invited to seats within the bar.

Br. A. H. Bassett, ministerial representative from Ohio, and brs. J. Varden, ministerial, and Wesley Starr, lay representative, from the Maryland District, presented their certificates and were received.

Br. Brown moved that the Conference proceed to the ordering of the several Committees, which, after some little explanation, was adopted.

The following are those now ordered:—

1. On Journals, to consist of 9 members.

2. On Boundaries. Br. Brown proposed the number of 13. An amendment was offered by br. Ragan, that it be composed of one delegate from each Conference here represented. This amendment was lost. Br. John Scott proposed that 13 be stricken out and 7 inserted, which amendment prevailed. So the Committee is to consist of 7 members.

3. Judiciary Committee, of 5 members.

4. Executive " of 5 do.

There were 51 votes cast; 26 being a majority of the whole, and br. Burns having 29, he was declared duly elected. The President, without remark, continued the duties of the chair, and announced that the Conference would proceed to vote for a Secretary.

The result of the first ballot, as declared by the tellers, was :

For brs. W. H. Wills 39, J. G. Whitfield 4, A. H. Bassett 3, R. B. Thomson 1.

There were 47 votes cast; 24 being a majority, and br. Wills receiving 39, he was declared elected.

Conference proceeded to vote for a second Secretary.

The result of the first ballot was :

For brs. Jno. Scott 30, J. G. Whitfield 6, J. J. Smith 3, W. W. Walker 2.

There were 41 votes given; 22 being a majority, and br. Scott receiving 30, he was declared elected.

The chair announced the business in order to be the amendment of br. Starr, under consideration at the hour of adjournment of the preceding day, viz : the appointment of a special committee asked for by br. Woodhouse, to consist of six laymen and three ministers. The amendment was negatived, and the question on the resolution recurring, br. J. S. Reese moved an amendment to change the number from 5 to 9, which was adopted, as was likewise the resolution with this amendment. So the Conference directs this committee to consist of nine laymen.

Br. Southerland proposed that the Conference should define the character of the several committees, when it was determined to consider them in their order. The first occurring was the Committee on Journals, when br. S. moved that it consist of five ministers and four laymen. At this stage of the proceedings the whole subject was, on motion, laid on the table.

At 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ M. Conference adjourned. Prayer by br. Short.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 P. M.

Conference opened in form. The President in the chair. Services by br. Flood.

After the call of the roll, br. Varden moved that br. Collier be received as an honorary member of the Conference, in view of the relation which he sustains to the church in which this Conference is held.

Br. Ragan moved to amend so as to embrace all ministerial brethren present, or who may hereafter be here. The debate upon the amendment involved the question of privilege of honorary membership, which, however, was not defined. The motion, with the amendment, was laid on the table.

The President was, on motion, desired to appoint the committees as soon as practicable.

Br. Whitfield offered a motion to the effect "that the Book Agent be required to inform this Conference why, and at what time, the names of the compilers of the hymn book were left out in the present edition of the hymn book." The motion was adopted.

Br. Reese, the Book Agent, gave an explanation as above required,

Br. Carson moved that the word "laymen" be stricken out. The question on striking out was debated, but failed.

Br. Starr moved that this committee be composed of two ministers and three laymen. Br. Walker arose to a question of order—"If refusing to strike out 'laymen' did not prevent the appointment of a mixed committee?" The chair decided the motion of br. Starr to be in order. This motion was modified by an accepted amendment, that the committee be composed of 6 laymen and three ministers, which became the question before the Conference. Motion was made by br. Amos that it and the resolution be laid on the table, which the Conference refused to do. The question on the amendment again recurring, pending the discussion the Conference adjourned.

Prayer by br. Southerland.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 3, 1854.

At the hour appointed the Conference met, the President in the chair, when religious services were conducted by br. Varden.

The minutes of the preceding day, as read, were, on motion of br. J. S. Reese, adopted.

Committees' reports were called for. Br. Ragan reported that the Rules of Order, as ordered, were printed, and 100 copies laid on the Secretary's table.

On motion of br. Brown the report was received, the committee discharged, and the bill ordered to be paid. Subsequently, a collection of five cents from each member was made, which discharged the bill.

At this juncture the President announced the hour of 10 as having arrived, and as being the order of the day for the election of permanent officers of the Conference.

This order was, on motion of br. Dorsey, suspended for not more than 15 minutes.

Br. J. J. Smith, ministerial representative from New York, presented his certificate and was received.

The following members, presenting their certificates, were received: From Wabash, br. J. C. Wright, minister; West Tennessee, W. D. Wilkerson, minister, and J. M. Hayes, layman; Genesee, S. M. Short, minister; Michigan, J. L. Turner, minister, and Truman Hinman, layman; Georgia, Isaiah C. Wallace, minister, and Jno. Webb, layman.

Br. J. S. Robinson, ministerial delegate from Onondaga, having no certificate, was received on the evidence furnished by the Journal of his Conference.

The order of the day was called, and Conference proceeded to the election of its permanent officers.

The chair appointed brs. Clancy and E. Y. Reese tellers.

The vote was first taken for President. On the first ballot the tellers announced the result as follows:—

For brs. Jno. Burns 29, R. B. Thomson 11, J. S. Reese 7, W. H. Wills 3, George Brown 1.

On motion, the whole matter in relation to the appointment of a reporter was laid on the table.

Br. Short moved an amendment to the 2d rule of order, so that we meet at 8 instead of 9 o'clock. The motion was laid on the table.

The President announced the appointment of the following committees :

1. *On Journals*—J. G. Whitfield, J. Clarke, Wm. B. Evans, J. C. Wright, R. E. Gormon, J. Davis, George Vickers, A. Nicholson, Wm. Wyman.
2. *On Boundaries*—P. T. Laishley, R. Horn, W. W. Walker, J. M. Flood, J. Ashton, F. Scott and C. Johnston.
3. *Judiciary*—G. Brown, J. S. Robinson, J. S. Reese, J. J. Amos, J. M. Hayes.
4. *Executive*—Z. Ragan, J. J. Smith, S. M. Short, T. Hinman, T. A. Reed.
5. *College*—R. B. Thomson, D. B. Dorsey, E. Y. Reese, G. Brown, J. Webb, D. C. Carson, N. S. Catterlin.
6. *Church Periodical and Book Concern*—G. Clancy, J. G. Whitfield, Geo. Vickers, J. C. Wright, Wm. Miller, W. Tozer, J. M. Flood, J. L. Armstrong, Isaiah C. Wallace.
7. *Means of Grace*—S. B. Southerland, J. L. Turner and J. F. Smith.
8. *On Finance*—W. W. Walker, I. C. Wallace, W. D. Wilkerson, John Webb, T. A. Reed, C. W. Starr, H. B. Woodhouse.
9. *On Orders*—S. M. Short, Samuel Hughes, J. C. Wright, W. B. Evans, W. D. Wilkerson.
10. *Sabbath Schools*—J. M. Flood, Wm. Miller, J. Davis, J. Burdine, T. Hinman.
11. *Home and Foreign Missions*—J. P. Johnston, A. H. Bassett, J. S. Reese, M. C. Whitaker, J. J. Amos, Wm. Wyman, C. Johnston.
12. *Ratio of Representation*—E. Y. Reese, J. G. Whitfield, T. Hanna.
13. *On Statistics*—A. H. Bassett, W. Tozer, J. Ashton.
14. *On Allowance of Ministers*—H. B. Woodhouse, W. Starr, T. A. Reed, D. C. Carson, John Webb, N. T. Catterlin, J. L. Armstrong, J. M. Hayes, Wm. Miller.

On motion, br. Varden was relieved from serving on the Committee on Boundaries, and br. R. Horn appointed instead.

Br. J. Scott was also, on motion, released from the Committee on Home and For. Missions, and br. J. P. Johnston appointed to supply the vacancy.

Certificates were read, and brs. Daniel Young, alternate ministerial, and W. Cullen, lay, delegates from North Illinois District, received into the Conference.

Br. Brown, on behalf of the Trustees of Madison College, submitted a report, which after being read, motion was made to refer to the College Committee. (Appendix, No. 2.)

Br. Whitfield moved, and the motion was sustained, that the foregoing motion and the report be laid on the table.

A second paper connected with the interests of Madison College was read, and on motion was ordered to be laid on the table with the preceding. (Appendix, No. 3.)

when br. Wills moved "that the reasons assigned be regarded as satisfactory." This motion was laid on the table.

Br. Reed moved "that the Book Agent be requested to furnish a statement in writing."

Br. Walker suggested an amendment by prefixing "the reasons assigned were satisfactory," so as to read, that "the reasons assigned were satisfactory, and that the Agent be requested to furnish a statement in writing." In the midst of the discussion, br. Jno. Scott moved to lay "the whole subject on the table until the report of the Book Committee be brought in;" which motion prevailed.

Br. Flood offered the following resolution, which, on motion, was adopted:

Resolved, That br. Collier be invited to present at his discretion any matter of interest connected with the M. P. Church in this city, or with regard to the doings of the Board of Foreign Missions, of which he is a member.

The following resolution, offered by br. Bassett, was adopted, and on motion referred to the Committee on the "Ratio of Representation:"

Resolved, That the committee on the "Ratio of Representation" be requested to consider and report whether or not it would be constitutional and proper for this General Conference to authorize the electoral college of any district having a fraction of as many as one thousand persons in full membership, to elect one ministerial and one lay representative to the ensuing General Conference for such fraction of one thousand members.

At 4 P. M. Conference adjourned. Prayer by br. Thomson.

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 4.

The President in the chair. Conference came to order—br. Brown conducting the exercises.

The roll was called, after which br. James M. Smith, lay delegate from Virginia, was received, his certificate being in the Conference. Other certificates were presented, but before being read the rules of order were suspended to receive the report of br. Collier in relation to the appointments for the ensuing Sabbath. That report was read, br. Varden one of the appointees excused from preaching on the Sabbath, and the report recommitted.

Conference resumed the reception of members, and their certificates having been read, the following are their names: Brs. O. H. Shaver and Jas. F. Smith, both alternate ministerial representatives from Alabama; J. P. Johnston, ministerial representative from Illinois; Chas. W. Button, a lay representative from Maryland; and Reddick Horn, a ministerial representative from Platte District.

The minutes of the preceding day were read, corrected and adopted. Committees' reports were called for, but none were presented.

Br. J. J. Smith moved that a reporter of this Conference be appointed for the daily Herald of the city. An amendment was offered by br. E. Y. Reese, that br. J. J. Smith be the reporter appointed.

Br. Ragan moved an amendment, so as to embrace the "American Union" newspaper.

Tract Society and Depository for the circulation of such tracts as the society may purchase or publish."

Referred to Committee on the church Periodical, &c.

3. "*Resolved*, That our delegates to the General Conference are hereby instructed to use their influence to have the constitution on page 29, in reference to circuit and station Stewards, so altered or amended as to read 'not less than 3 nor more than 15.'"

Referred to Executive Committee.

4. "*Resolved*, That our delegates to the General Conference be and are hereby instructed to ask that body to take into consideration the propriety of forming a Church Catechism, embracing the fundamental doctrines taught by the M. P. Church and the Word of God." Referred to Committee on Sabbath Schools.

Br. Carson presented two resolutions, which, on motion, were referred to the Executive Committee, as follows:

1. "*Resolved*, That the Executive Committee be requested to inquire into the propriety of defining the limits of the action of an extra called Quarterly Conference to the business announced in the call."

2. "*Resolved*, That the Executive Committee be requested to inquire into the propriety of so altering the rule on page 44 Discipline as to make it the duty of the Advisory Committee to keep a journal of their proceedings and to furnish a copy to each ensuing Quarterly Conference."

The following resolutions, introduced by br. Whitfield, were read, and on motion, referred to their appropriate committees:

1. "*Resolved*, That our representatives in the next General Conference be instructed to use their best endeavors to have our Discipline altered so as to recognize but one order of ministers, (that of Elder.) Referred to Committee on Orders.

2. "*Resolved*, That our representatives in the next General Conference be and are hereby requested to use their influence to have our Constitution so altered as to leave it optional with each Annual Conference whether or not the President shall travel or not through the district." Referred to Executive Committee.

3. "*Resolved*, That the Discipline, on page 100, 13th line, be amended by inserting the words, 'when it shall come to years of accountability' after the word child, so as to read, 'Grant, O Lord! that this child, when it shall come to years of accountability, may die unto sin,' &c. Referred to Committee on means of Grace.

4. "*Resolved*, That on page 102 all of the first sentence in ceremony of Baptism for adults, after 'dearly beloved,' be stricken out, so as to read, 'Dearly beloved, I beseech you,' &c. Referred to foregoing committee.

5. "*Resolved*, That the Conference inquire into the propriety of striking from the marriage ceremony, 'In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost,' and otherwise abridging the ceremony."

A third paper, from the students of Madison College, was also read and, on motion, laid on the table with the two foregoing papers. (Appendix, No. 4.)

Br. John Scott presented a proposition from A. H. English & Co., of Pittsburg, in reference to the printing of the Hymn Book, which on being read was referred to the Committee on the Church Periodical and Book Concern.

A resolution of br. Robinson in relation to the powers and privileges of this Conference was read and referred to Judiciary Committee.

Br. Southerland presented a resolution on behalf of the Maryland Conference—

“Resolved, That in the opinion of this conference the interests of the M. P. Church would be advanced by a more general diffusion of our church literature, and that a reduction of the present prices of books sold by our concern would promote this object.”

On motion this resolution was referred to the Committee on Church Periodical, &c.

The following, introduced by br. Webb from the minutes of the Georgia Conference, was referred to the foregoing committee:

“Resolved, That this conference respectfully petition through her delegates to establish a branch of our Book Concern in the city of Atlanta, Ga., or at some other convenient place in the Southern States.”

Conference at quarter to 12 M. adjourned. Prayer by br. Wright.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 P. M.

The President in the chair. Services by br. Wallace.

After the call of the roll, a communication from the Platte District, setting forth its organization, &c., was presented by br. Horn, read, and on motion referred to the Committee on Boundaries. (Appendix, No. 5.)

A communication from a committee of members in the Platte District, praying the Conference to place them under the control of the Board of Foreign Missions was also read, and on motion likewise referred to the Committee on Boundaries. (Appendix, No. 6.)

On motion, br. E. Hoskens was privileged to make any statements to the committee or the Conference pertaining to the business with which he is charged relating to the “Des Moines Mission.”

On motion, the same privilege was accorded to br. Dawson in reference to the mission above referred to.

The following resolutions of br. Southerland, on behalf of the Maryland Conference, were read and referred to their appropriate committees:

1. *“Resolved, That our delegates to the General Conference be, and they are hereby instructed to use their influence in procuring an alteration in the Discipline, so as to allow each itinerant minister and preacher \$150; also the wife of each \$150, and the children of each itinerant minister and preacher under the age of fifteen years \$25 for each conference year.”* Referred to committee of 9 laymen.

2. *“Resolved, That our delegates to the General Conference are hereby instructed to inquire into the expediency of erecting a general*

the Virginia and other Conferences in a petition to the next General Conference to make said change.

Br. Brown offered the following resolution, which after considerable discussion was laid on the table :

Resolved, That any member of this Conference, who will volunteer to report the proceedings of this General Conference on his own responsibility, to the several papers of this city, is fully at liberty to do so.

Br. Laishley moved that the resolution just laid on the table be taken up.

This motion was, by the mover, subsequently withdrawn on leave of the Conference.

Br. J. S. Reese submitted the following, which was adopted :

Resolved, That if the editors of Steubenville, or any one of them, express a wish to publish the proceedings of this General Conference, it will be the pleasure of the body to furnish such facilities as will enable them to obtain reports."

Br. Wyman, of the Boston District, asked and obtained leave of absence from the farther sittings of this Conference.

Br. Laishley offered the following, which, on motion, was referred to the Judiciary Committee :

Resolved, That the following alterations be made in the book of discipline at page 36, section 1, line 9. After the word "preachers," insert the following : "provided, however, that laymen may serve with the consent of the accused." Also at line 20, strike out the words, "ministers and preachers to serve on."

The following, presented by br. J. S. Smith, was on motion referred to the Executive Committee :

Resolved, That the article of discipline on page 57, which fixes the meeting of the Electoral College on the first Monday after the commencement of the Annual Conference, be so altered as to give to the several Annual Conferences the power of determining the time of the assembling of the college."

On motion, Conference adjourned at about 5 P. M. Prayer by br. Robinson.

FRIDAY MORNING, May 5.

Conference called to order. The President in the chair, and opened in form, br. Jno. Clark conducting the services.

On the conclusion of the roll call, the minutes of the preceding day were read and without correction, adopted.

Br. Fletcher Tevis, a ministerial delegate from the Indiana Conference, presented his certificate and was received.

Reports of committees were called for. The following were read :

1. Bro. Laishley, on behalf of the Committee on Boundaries, reported in part, (Appendix, No. 7,) which, on motion, was laid on the table, and subsequently withdrawn.

2. The same Committee reported in part thus : "Having had the petition from the Des Moines Mission before us, and having heard

Br. Laishley offered two papers, both of which were, on motion, referred to the Judiciary Committee:

1. "That they inquire into the propriety of amending the Discipline, end of paragraph 7, page 38, so that 'In all cases of church trials an appeal may be taken from the decision of the presiding officer to the committee by the prosecutor or the defendant.'"

2. "Also, at the end of paragraph 2, page 37, 'This provision shall likewise apply to ministers and preachers.'"

Br. Reed presented the two following resolutions, the first of which, on motion, was referred to the Executive Committee, and is as follows:

1. *Resolved*, That the second clause of the article in our Book of Discipline, entitled, "Admission to Membership," be altered so as to read thus, "In stations admittance to full membership shall be by the vote of a majority of the members of the society." And the second referred to the Judiciary Committee, thus:

2. *Resolved*, That all the article in our Book of Discipline, entitled "Means of Grace," be stricken therefrom, except the first clause.

The following resolution, by br. Laishley, was referred to the Committee on Means of Grace:

Resolved, That the heading relating to ministers partaking the elements of the Lord's Supper first, and then an invitation be given to others, be stricken from the Book of Discipline.

Br. Ragan moved that the motion to appoint a reporter for the papers of this city, laid on the table this morning, be taken up. After some discussion this motion, by leave, was withdrawn.

Br. Clancy submitted the following on behalf of the Muskingum Conference:

Resolved, That this Annual Conference concur with the Virginia Conference in authorizing the ensuing General Conference to so alter the Constitution as to authorize each Annual Conference to station its President at discretion," which, on motion, was referred to the Executive Committee.

Br. Thompson offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Finance be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so altering and amending that part of the Discipline which relates to the salary and allowance of ministers and preachers as to commit the whole subject to the action of the several Annual Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

Br. Burdine, on behalf of the Annual Conference of the South Carolina District, presented the following preamble and resolution of his Conference, which, on motion, was referred to the Executive Committee:

Whereas the General Conference, at its last session, passed a resolution to change at its next meeting the law of discipline making it obligatory upon conferences to have a traveling President under all circumstances, provided a majority of said conferences should concur in it before its next meeting; therefore,

Resolved, That we approve of the change, and heartily join with

stitution, be stricken out, except so much as relates to Journals of Conferences, &c. Referred to Executive Committee.

Second, That the portions of the Constitution and Discipline relating to the compensation of the Itinerant ministers and preachers, and to the allowance to their wives, and widows and children, be so amended as to secure to such ministers and preachers, and to their wives, widows and children, such compensation and allowance as their wants and necessities in the present and prospective condition of society demand. Referred to the "Committee of Laymen."

Third, That the 2d section of Article 11 of the Constitution be so amended as to leave it in the power of the several Annual Conferences to give direction of the labors of their president, by appointing him to a station, circuit or mission, or to travel through the district as in their judgment may seem best. Referred to the Executive Committee.

Fourth, That the second section of Article 12 of the Constitution, be amended by striking therefrom the word "white." Referred to the foregoing committee.

Fifth, That section 24, on page 53 of Discipline, be so amended as to allow the several Annual Conferences to publish the abstract of their minutes in such paper or papers as they may select for the purpose. Referred to the "committee on church periodical," &c.

Sixth, That our delegates be instructed to use their influence in the General Conference to secure the establishment of a branch of the Book Concern and church paper in the West. Referred to the "committee on the church periodical," &c.

Br. Smith, of Ala., presented the following :

Resolved, That our delegates to the General Conference be instructed to use their efforts to secure for the church an efficient Itinerant ministry, set apart to the preaching of the gospel, and such a change in the Discipline as to provide for the ministry thus devoted, a competent compensation.

Which, on motion, was referred to the committee of nine laymen.

Br. Jas. F. Smith presented, on behalf of the Alabama Conference, the following paper, which, after being read, was ordered to the Executive Committee. "We, the Committee to whom the communication from the Virginia Annual Conference was referred, report: That we do not approve the contemplated change, inasmuch as we regard that movement dangerous to the interests of the church. We therefore recommend that this Conference does not engage in the alteration of the Constitution contemplated by our Virginia brethren."

Br. J. J. Smith presented a paper declaring the union of the New York and Vermont Districts, and embracing a resolution defining the boundaries thereof. (Appendix, No. 11). On motion, referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Br. Wilkerson, on behalf of the Tennessee District, offered the following: *Resolved,* That our delegates to the General Conference be clothed with conventional powers, and that this Conference concur with the Virginia Annual Conference in so changing the rule of the discipline as to leave it with the several Annual Conferences to de-

br. Hoskens on the business referred to in the aforesaid petition, we recommend that the petition be referred to the committee on Home and Foreign Missions." This report was, on motion, laid on the table, and the petition referred to the committee on "Missions."

3. Br. Brown, on behalf of the Judiciary Committee, made a partial report, which, on motion, was laid on the table. (Appendix, No. 8.)

4. Br. Clark, on behalf of the "Board of Foreign Missions," made a report, which, after being read, was, by order of the Conference, referred to the "Committee on Home and Foreign Missions." (Appendix, No. 9.)

Br. Whitfield moved that the 18th rule of order be so amended as that a motion "to lay on the table be taken without debate." Motion was made to amend the amendment so that no motion laid on the "table shall be taken up the same day." The amendment to the amendment was lost, as was also the amendment.

Br. Wills offered the following resolutions, which were referred to their respective committees:

1. *Resolved*, That the Judiciary Committee be directed to determine the propriety of amending the Discipline, page 62, section 8, by striking out the word "some," and inserting "two latter with the names of all the males in full membership over the age of 21 years," so as to harmonize with Sec. 6, p. 45 of Discipline.

Referred, on motion, to the Judiciary Committee.

2. *Resolved*, That the Executive Committee be directed to report on the propriety of adding at the end of Sec. 2, p. 66, on "duty of class leaders," these words, "and to hand over the class books or records of his society, to his successor."

Referred to committee named in resolution.

3. *Resolved*, That the Committee on the Judiciary be directed to report, if they deem it proper, whether the provision of the discipline, p. 66, Sec. 5, requires *all acts of transgression* on circuits to be reported to the Superintendent by the class leader, or whether the Superintendent may prosecute a case without the intervention of the leader, and in either case, to so amend the phraseology as to remove its ambiguity." Referred to Judiciary Committee.

Br. Hanna presented a petition from the Steubenville Station, with the signatures of some 22 of its members, praying the Conference to provide for a more permanent pastoral relation in certain cases, which on motion was referred to the Executive Committee. (App., No. 10.)

Br. Short was excused from serving on the committee on orders, and br Sharer appointed in his place.

Br. Flood presented the following series on behalf of the Ohio Conference, and were referred as hereinafter stated.

1. *Resolved*, That we recommend that the ensuing General Conference be clothed with conventional powers, and that our delegates to that body be instructed to use their influence and vote to secure the following changes in the conference of the M. P. Church.

First, that the 3d division of the 4th section of article 7th of con-

Br. Flood proposed to strike out the word "request" and insert "direct." Pending this motion Conference adjourned. Prayer by br. Sharer.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 P. M.

Conference called to order. President in the chair. Services by br. Tozer.

Reports of the Committees called for. Br. Laishley, on behalf of the Committee on Boundaries, reported in part: "That the New York and Vermont Conferences be consolidated into one Conference, agreeably to their own action, and that they retain the original boundaries of both Conferences, as set forth in the book of Discipline," which report, on motion, was adopted.

Br. Woodhouse, from the Committee "on Allowance of Ministers," &c., reported in part as follows: "The Committee to whom was referred the resolution requiring them to inquire into the propriety of increasing the disciplinary allowance of our 'Itinerant Ministers and Preachers, their wives and children,' have had the subject under consideration and recommend the adoption of the following," &c. Laid on the Table.

The Committee on "Means of Grace" submitted a report in part, which, on being read, was laid on the table. The report is as follows:

1. We report adversely to the resolution offered by br. Laishley, proposing to strike from the Discipline the recommendation to ministers officiating at the Lord's Supper to partake of the elements first.

2. We report favorably upon the resolution of br. Whitfield, to amend the Discipline on page 100, line 13th, by inserting the words, "when it shall come to years of accountability" may die unto sin, &c.

3. We report adversely to any change to be made in the marriage ceremony. (Signed)

S. B. SOUTHERLAND,
J. F. SMITH.

Conference proceeded to the consideration of the business before it at the adjournment of the morning session, which was the resolution of br. J. S. Reese, and the question, on striking out the word "request" and inserting "direct." After considerable discussion the previous question was called and sustained. The amendment was lost. A division of the resolution was demanded. This division is at the end of the words, "Church Hymn Book." The first member was moved to be laid on the table, which failed. A call for the previous question was made, but not sustained. The first member of the resolution was adopted. The second member was, on motion, laid on the table.

Br. Robinson presented the following papers, which were read and the first referred to the Judiciary Committee. "Resolved, That it be the decision of this General Conference that the suggestion or presentation of a charge of immorality during the examination of character in our several conferences, cannot prejudice or prevent the passage on official character, unless said charge of immorality has direct reference

termine whether they will have a traveling President under all circumstances, or whether they will give to him work as other ministers under the stationing authority. This resolution was ordered to the Executive Committee.

Br. Tozer presented a paper which, on motion, was referred to the Ex. Committee: "Resolved, That this General Conference be requested to so amend the book of Discipline that the respective Annual Conferences may be allowed to station their Presidents when they may deem it necessary."

Br. Tozer submitted another paper which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Orders. "Resolved, that this General Conference be requested to abolish the order of Deacon."

Br. J. P. Johnston, on behalf of the Illinois Conference, offered a resolution, as follows: Resolved, That we concur with the brethren of the Virginia Conference, in clothing the General Conference with conventional power to alter the Constitution so as to allow the Annual Conferences to station their Presidents. Which, on motion, was referred to the Executive Committee.

Br. E. Y. Reese presented the report of the Book Directory in relation to the "Church Periodical and Book Concern," (Appendix, No. 12,) which, having been read, was referred to the Committee touching the matter.

Br. A. H. Bassett presented a paper touching the restriction of the Compiler's letter to the Hymn Book, which had been removed therefrom by the Book Committee in Baltimore, which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on "Church Periodical," &c.

On motion, the Conference took up the motion of br. Reed, laid on the table on Wednesday last, requiring the explanations of the Book Agent to be given in writing, and also the amendment of br. Walker, that "the reasons assigned were satisfactory."

Br. E. Y. Reese was heard in explanation, who read from the proceedings of the Book Committee in Baltimore, in 1848, in which br. Waters' resolution prevailed: "that the names of the Compilers be removed from the Hymn Book." Br. Starr also explained, in defence of the Book Committee. In his remarks allusion was made to br. T. H. Stockton, when the chair decided that "Br. Stockton was not a party in the transaction under consideration."

Br. Varden appealed from this decision. The chair was sustained.

By leave of Conference both the motion of br. Reed and the amendment of br. Walker were withdrawn, to give place to a substitute proposed by J. S. Reese.

On the withdrawal, as above stated, br. J. S. Reese offered the following: "Resolved, That the information given by the Editor and Book Agent, at the instance of br. Whitfield, is perfectly satisfactory, so far as relates to the motives of the Book Committee in the removal of the correspondence and names of the Compilers from the Church Hymn Book. Nevertheless, we request the Book Committee to restore the correspondence and names of the Compilers in the future editions of our Hymn Book."

2. That this Conference concur with the Virginia Conference in so changing the rule of the Discipline as to leave it with the Annual Conference whether it will have a traveling President or not.

3. That our delegates be instructed to use their best endeavors to have the word "white" stricken out from the 12th Article of our Constitution.

Resolved, 4. That our delegates be instructed to use their influence to have the order of Deacon abolished in the M. P. Church.

Br. Cullen, on behalf of the North Illinois Conference presented the following :

"*Resolved*, That our delegates in General Conference be instructed to use their best efforts to secure a solemn expression of that body against the evils and sinfulness of slavery."

Br. Amos moved to lay on the table. Br. Whitfield offered an amendment, "till the 17th day of July." After debate, the previous question was called and sustained. Question on the amendment. The yeas and nays were ordered. The result was as follows :

Yeas—Fletcher Tevis, J. J. Amos, George Vickers, J. G. Whitfield, H. B. Woodhouse, Samuel Hughes, J. M. Hayes, J. F. Smith. 8.

Nays—D. B. Dorsey, Z. Ragan, J. Burns, George Clancy, J. Davis, T. A. Reed, F. Scott, T. Hanna, G. Brown, J. Clark, J. Scott, P. T. Laishley, Wm. Miller, A. H. Bassett, J. M. Flood, Wm. B. Evans, D. C. Carson, J. Ashton, J. C. Wright, N. T. Catterlin, R. E. Gorman, J. Moss, Wm. Tozer, J. S. Reese, E. Y. Reese, S. B. Southerland, W. Starr, C. W. Button, R. B. Thomson, W. W. Walker, W. H. Wills, A. Nicholson, M. C. Whitaker, C. Johnston, J. S. Armstrong, S. Burdine, J. S. Robinson, W. D. Wilkerson, S. M. Short, J. L. Turner, T. Hinman, J. C. Wallace, John Webb, J. P. Johnston, O. H. Shaver, D. Young, Wm. Cullen, J. J. Smith, R. Horn. 49 So the amendment failed. The motion to lay on the table coming up, was negatived, when a motion to refer to the Executive Committee prevailed. On the last question brs. J. G. Whitfield, H. B. Woodhouse and J. F. Smith, voting in the negative, requested their names to be so recorded.

On motion of br. Laishley, all the papers heretofore laid on the Table, referring to Madison College, were taken up.

Br. Whitfield moved "a reference of the papers to the College Committee, with instructions that in their report they recognize no relation of the General Conference over Madison College, save that of advisory." A division of the motion was ordered, when the first member, embracing the words, "a reference of the papers to the College Com.," was adopted. Pending the discussion of the remaining member, Conference adjourned at 5¼ P. M. Prayer by br. Reeves.

SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 6.

The President took the chair promptly at the minute. After the call of the Conference to order, religious exercises were performed by br. Carson.

After the call of the roll, br. Joseph Camper, a ministerial representative from Tennessee District, presented his certificate and was received.

to some official act." The 2d paper, by the same brother, was referred to the Executive Committee, and is as follows :

Resolved, 1. That the article on page 51, Discipline, regulating the time of holding the Electoral College be so altered as to leave it discretionary with each Annual Conference.

2. That article 7, Sec. 1 and 2, of Constitution, regulating the condition of colored membership, be stricken out.

3. That article 12, sec. 1 and 2, of Constitution, the term "white" be stricken out, and be so amended as to read "every lay male member of the age of 21 years."

Br. Gorman, on behalf of the Pa. Annual Conference, presented the following abstract, which was referred to the Executive Committee :

"Committee on instructions to delegates to General Conference beg leave to report that they would recommend the resolution of Virginia Annual Conference—that is, to leave it optional with Conferences whether they will or will not have a Traveling President."

Br. Wallace, on behalf of the Georgia Conference, presented the following extract from their minutes :

1. Your Committee would recommend that the next General Conference be clothed with conventional powers, for the purpose of so altering the 6th Sec. of Art. 10 of Constitution, as to strike out the word "higher," and make it read "No other order of ministry shall be authorized than that of Elder."

2. And to so alter the 7th Sect. of Art. 10 as to allow each Annual Conference to station its ministers and preachers so long as in its judgment they can be profitably employed on the same Circuit or in the same station.

3. To so alter the 11th Art. and Sec. 2d, Constitution, as to give to the Annual Conferences power to give their Presidents stationary appointments if they should see proper so to do. Referred to Executive Committee.

Br. Wright, on behalf of the Wabash Conference, offered the following, which was referred to the Committee aforesaid :

Resolved, That we do not approve of the change in Discipline, in reference to the stationing of the President, recommended by the Va. Conference.

Br. Burdine, on behalf of the S. C. Annual Conference, offered the two following. Both referred to the Executive Committee :

Resolved, 1. That this Conference protest against the General Conference amending or striking out any portion of the 3d division of the division of the 4 Sec. of Article 7.

Resolved, 2. That we protest against the word "white" being stricken from the 2d Sec. of 12th Article of the Constitution.

Br. Short, on behalf of the Genesee Conference, presented a series of resolutions, the first three of which were referred to the Executive Committee, and the last to the Committee on Orders.

Resolved, 1. That our delegates to the General Conference to sit in Steubenville be clothed with conventional power.

Book Directory requested to issue a new edition as soon as practicable." On motion, laid on the table.

Br. Cullen, on behalf of the North Illinois Conference, presented the following papers, which were severally referred as hereinafter stated.

1. *Resolved*, that our delegates to the General Conference are hereby clothed with conventional powers, and they are instructed to use their best endeavors to have the word "white" stricken from the 12th Article of our Constitution." Referred to Executive Committee.

2. Also to secure the removal of the church organ, the Methodist Protestant and Book Concern to Cincinnati or Pittsburg. Referred to committee on church periodicals.

3. Also that this Conference concur with the Virginia Conference in so changing the rules of the Discipline as to leave it with the Annual Conferences to determine whether they will have a traveling President or not. Referred to Executive committee.

4. On motion, it was resolved to instruct the delegates to the General Conference to use their best efforts to have the order of Deacon discontinued in our Church. This 4th item was referred to the committee on orders.

Whereas, the Discipline says, page 53, item 24, "It shall be the duty of the respective Annual Conferences to forward to the Editor of the Methodist Protestant, post-paid, such extracts from their minutes annually, as they may deem proper for publication," and whereas, the editor of the Methodist Protestant refused to publish the minutes of the North Illinois Conference, sent to him according to law, in relation to slavery; therefore resolved that we ask the coming General Conference to examine into the above case, and call the Editor of the Methodist Protestant, the Rev. E. Y. Reese, to an account.

On motion, the last named paper was referred to a special committee of five members, as was also the following paper presented by bro. E. Y. Reese, in reference to the same matter, which contained extracts from the North Illinois Conference, sent to him for publication. (Appendix, No. 18.)

The following was read and referred to Executive Committee:

"The Michigan Annual Conference instructed her delegates to the General Conference to use their influence to have the word "white," on page 29, article 12, stricken out of the Discipline." (Signed) J. L. Turner, Freeman Herman.

Br. Laishley offered the following, which was referred to the Committee on Means of Grace.

Resolved, That so much of the law on page 61 of the Discipline as relates to notes or tickets for admission into the love feasts, be stricken from the discipline.

Br. Ragan offered an address from the Steubenville Station, Ohio, which was ordered to be read, and which related to the more liberal support of our ministry. In conclusion, on motion, it was referred to committee on Finance, and the Secretary relieved from copying.

The minutes of the preceding day were read, and on motion for adoption, br. Varden asked to correct the minutes in reference to his appeal from the decision of the chair.

Br. Varden was permitted to make some remarks, in which reference was made to the Book Directory, Book Concern, &c., in which he stated that his appeal on yesterday from the decision of the chair, was the result of a misunderstanding between himself and the chair.

With this explanation, after some few other remarks from br. Whitfield, the minutes as read were adopted.

Br. Laishley asked and obtained leave of absence to fill an appointment on the Sabbath, (to-morrow.)

The committee on Means of Grace, made a *second* report as follows, and which, on motion, was laid on the table. That the terms "of water and of the Holy Ghost," in the formulary of adult baptism, on page 102, be stricken out of the Discipline.

The Finance Committee reported, which after being read was laid on the table. (Appendix, No. 13.)

Br. Ragan, from the Executive Committee, made a report on several subjects committed to them, (Appendix, No. 14,) which was laid on the table after being read.

Br. Laishley on behalf of the committee on boundaries, submitted a report touching the S. Illinois Conference, which, on motion, was laid on the table. (Appendix, No. 15.) A further report from the same committee in reference to Territory within the limits of the Wabash District. Also laid on the table. (Appendix, No. 16.)

Br. Brown, on behalf of the Judiciary Committee, submitted a report which was laid on the table. (Appendix, No. 17.)

On motion, the motion to reconsider was made and prevailed, so far as the 3d item in the above report was concerned, which, on motion, was referred to the Executive Committee, being resolution No. 1, of br. Wills, referred to them on page 16.

Br. Clancy offered the following paper, which on being read, was on motion referred to the committee on "Home and Foreign Missions."

"*Resolved*, That the committee on "Home and Foreign Missions" be requested to take into consideration the propriety of so altering and amending the Missionary regulations in our book of Discipline as to definitely authorize and empower the Board of Missions to establish Missionary stations or fields of labor in foreign lands, and within the destitute and unoccupied portions of the States and Territories within this union, within or without the defined boundaries of Annual Conferences, and among heathens or destitute Christians, and to empower the Board to employ Missionaries and to provide for organizing Societies, Stations, Circuits and Quarterly Conferences, in accordance with the principles and provisions of our Constitution and Discipline."

Br. Starr offered the following :

"*Whereas* it is believed our Hymn-Book could be much improved by suitable and judicious revision, therefore, *Resolved*, That a committee for that purpose be appointed by the Conference, and the

Conference. In other cases of trial of Itinerant Ministers and Preachers, the prosecutor shall be appointed by the President.

3. At the bottom of page 36, "the Annual Conferences respectively shall provide for the payment of any expenses incurred in bringing Committees from a distance to take part in Judicial Investigations."

The President offered a communication from J. W. McIntyre, General Agent of the American Sunday School Union for State of Indiana, in which he asks the General Conference to adopt an efficient plan by which Sabbath Schools may be rendered more effective, &c., which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Sabbath Schools.

Br. J. J. Smith presented the following, which, on motion, was referred to "Committee on means of Grace:"

Resolved, That that part of the paragraph on page 61, Sec. 5, which reads to "renew the tickets quarterly in stations for the admission of members into love feasts," &c., closing thus: "and to see that suitable door-keepers be appointed to prevent the admission of improper persons," be stricken out; and that the same section, page 62, be so altered as to read "each Superintendent, either of a Circuit or Station, shall be required, as far as practicable, to prevent love-feasts being held as public meetings, and shall use the best regulations," &c.

Br. Smith also offered the following on behalf of the New York and Vermont Annual Conferences:

Resolved, 1. That our delegates to the General Conference be instructed to use their influence to have the word "*white*," in Article 12 of the Constitution, stricken out.

2. That they seek to have the regulations for the government of the Electoral College so altered that the time for holding them shall be discretionary with the Annual Conferences, which was referred to the Executive Committee."

Br. Clancy submitted the following on behalf of the Muskingum Conference:

Resolved, That the contracts made between Ministers and Churches for salaries should be binding on both parties, as all other contracts.

Resolved, That the Tribunals of the Church, to whom the parties respectively are amenable, should be required to enforce said contracts, by such penalties as are authorized by the word of God," which on motion, was referred to the Committee on Allowance of Ministers.

Br. J. P. Johnston presented a paper, purporting to be the Minutes of the Illinois Conference, touching the action and complaining of the course of the North Illinois Conference in certain cases.

Motion was made to read the same, which was refused, and then a motion to lay on the table, but subsequently withdrawn, when further motion was made to re-consider the vote declining to read. Reconsideration prevailed, when, by order, the paper was read, then moved to refer the same to the Committee on Boundaries, amended by suggesting a reference to the Judiciary Committee, which amendment prevailed. So the paper was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

On motion of br. Clancy, Conference determined that on its adjournment it adjourn to Monday morning, 8 o'clock.

The President announced the Special Committee, to whom were referred the complaint of the North Illinois Conference against the Editor of the Methodist Protestant, and the paper furnished by him, J. G. Whitfield, J. J. Smith, Wm. B. Evans, C. W. Button, T. A. Reed.

Brs. Starr and Wallace, a minority of the Committee on Finance, asked to "report adverse to the majority report of the said Committee in regard to the disciplinary allowance of the Itinerant Ministers and Preachers, their wives and children, and recommend the adoption of the arrangement suggested by the late Annual Conference of the Maryland District, as follows :

Resolved, that our delegates to the General Conference be, and they are hereby instructed to use their influence in procuring an alteration in the Discipline, so as to allow each Itinerant Minister and Preacher \$150 ; also the wife of each Itinerant Minister and Preacher \$150, and the children of each Itinerant minister and preacher, under the age of 15 years, \$25 dollars for each Conference year. Laid on the table.

Br. Wilkerson, on behalf of the West Tennessee District, presented the following, which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Boundaries :

"Whereas the Annual Conference of the Tennessee District, for reasons believed to be promotive of the best interests of the church, did at its session of 1851, divide and set off from its Territory a new district, called the West Tennessee District, and whereas the said West Tennessee District, under and in accordance with the provisions of said division, have fully organized and are desirous of being so recognized ; *Resolved*, therefore, that this General Conference do ratify and confirm in all things the said action of the Tennessee Annual Conference in the aforesaid premises."

The same brother presented another paper from his Conference in the words following, and was referred to the Executive Committee :

"*Resolved*, That our delegates to the General Conference be, and they are hereby instructed to use their best endeavors to prevent the word '*white*' being stricken out of the 12th Article of our Church Constitution."

On motion, the Conference took up the report of the Committee on "Allowance of Ministers," (page 19,) and on further motion the same was re-committed to its Committee.

Br. Thomson presented the three following papers, which were referred to the Judicial Committee :

Resolved, 1. That page 43, Sec. 2, at the end add the following : When a case is so referred a prosecutor shall be appointed by the Conference, in behalf of the Church.

2. At page 48, Sec. 3, add the following : "In all cases referred, a prosecutor shall be appointed in behalf of the Church, by the Annual

dead or out of the Church, or removed beyond practicable reach, *who* shall sign the new credential? Referred to Committee on Orders.

2. When a Minister belonging to an Annual Conference is left without an appointment without requesting to be so left, is he entitled to membership in any Quarterly Conference in the District? Referred to Executive Committee.

3. When a Minister or Preacher belonging to an Annual Conference has, for any cause, ceased to be useful or acceptable to the Church as a Minister or Pastor, has the Annual Conference a right to transfer him to the unstationed list without his request or his consent? Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Br. Varden presented the following: "Whereas two or more Annual Conferences have petitioned this body to establish branches of the Book Concern within the limits of their respective Districts: and whereas every member of the General Conference is personally responsible for the liabilities of any book, paper or other business department they may order or officially establish; and whereas it would be grossly unjust to involve the individual property of the members of this body or the property of the existing Book Concern, by establishing such branches, therefore

Resolved, That this General Conference decline setting apart in its name, or upon its responsibility, any branch or branches of the Book Concern. Nevertheless, should one or more of the Annual Conferences deem the existence of a Book or Paper department necessary to their prosperity, they have the right, on their own responsibility, to institute such department, and they are hereby authorized to draw upon the Agent and Directory of the Book Concern in Baltimore to the amount of their interest in said Concern, and the Agent and Directory, as aforesaid, shall, on the conditions already prescribed by the General Conference, make an equitable division of the stock and funds in hand and deliver the same to the duly authorized Agent of such Conference or Conferences; provided, nevertheless, that the claimants shall receive the liabilities of persons residing within their respective Districts, in part of the amount due them. And should the indebtedness of any Conference District thus claiming, exceed its amount of its interests in the Book Concern, the said Conference, on paying to the Agent thereof the sum of their indebtedness, shall be no longer responsible for the deeds or debts of the Book Concern.

Resolved, secondly, Should any one or more of the Annual Conferences thus dissolve their connection with the Book Concern, now in Baltimore, by *withdrawing* their portion of the Stock and Funds out of said Concern, then the Conference or Conferences thus withdrawing shall thereafter have no participation whatever in the management of the Book Concern, nor shall they have any claim in Law or Equity, upon the stock nor upon the funds or profits thereof. The Stock and proceeds of the aforesaid Book and Periodical Department being the property and held by the Directory for the use and benefit of such Annual Conferences as may continue to act under the charter granted by the State of Maryland, and entitled "The Book Concern of the Methodist Protestant Church."

On motion, at 12 M., the Conference adjourned. Prayer by br. Gorman.

MONDAY MORNING, May 8th.

The Conference, at 8, A. M., the hour to which it adjourned, was called to order. The President in the chair. Services by br. Johnston.

The roll was called, after which the Minutes of Saturday were adopted on motion, as read.

Br. Shadford Easton, a lay delegate from Ohio Conference, presented his certificate and was received.

Br. Ragan, on behalf of the Executive Committee, made a further report from that committee, which, after the reading, was, on motion, laid on the table. (Appendix, No. 19.)

On motion of br. Whitfield, the report of the Committee on Means of Grace was taken up.

Br. Whitfield moved that the 2d item in that report be adopted.

The discussion upon the question elicited very general debate, which consumed all the forenoon session, and without coming to conclusion, at a little past 12, M., the Conference adjourned with prayer by br. Johnston.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 P. M.

Conference came to order, with the President in chair, and was opened in form with religious services by br. Young.

On reports of Committees being called, br. Brown presented one from the Judiciary Committee, in reference to the matter referred to it from the Illinois Conference, which was, after being read, laid on the table. (Appendix, No. 20.)

Br. Southerland, from the Committee on Means of Grace, made a further report, (Appendix, No. 21,) which was likewise laid on the table.

On the disposition of the foregoing reports, Conference resumed the consideration of the question at the hour of adjournment of the forenoon session, viz: the adoption of the 2d item of the Committee's report "on Means of Grace." After some further discussion, the Conference refused to adopt, consequently the recommendation was rejected.

On motion the 3d item of the report, recommending no change in the marriage ceremony, was adopted. The first item of report was, on motion, laid on the table.

A second report from the same Committee (Means of Grace) was taken up, which recommends the striking out of a portion of the Discipline in the formulary of Adult Baptism, and the motion was made for the adoption of the report. This question was debated. Conference refused to adopt, and so the striking out failed.

Br. Short introduced the three following papers, which, on being read, were referred as hereinafter stated:

1. When a Minister has lost, by accident, his credential of ordination, and the President and Secretary who signed his credential are

Br. Walker, from the Committee on Finance, asked and obtained permission to be relieved from reporting on the matter referred to them from the Steubenville Station.

The Chairman of the Executive Committee reported on several matters referred to them, and the report, after its reading, was laid on the table. (Appendix, 25.)

Conference proceeded to the question under consideration at the hour of adjournment the last evening, viz: the amendment of br. Scott to the report of the Special Committee on the case of the Editor.

Further arguments were made, when the previous question was called for but not sustained. On further debate the amendment failed. Motion was then made, but not sustained, that the remaining part of the report be laid on the table. A second division of the report was then ordered by the Conference, ending with the words "*are alike interested,*" and the question for the adoption of this 2d member. At this stage br. Dorsey asked to be excused from voting in the case. The *yeas* and *nays* were called for, but the call not sustained, and the question of adoption prevailed. The following brethren, voting in the negative, asked that their names be so recorded: J. M. Flood, Daniel Young, Wm. Cullen and J. Ashton,

Motion then was made to adopt the 3d and remaining member, when br. Cullen introduced the following amendment, designing it to *precede* the item of the report under consideration: "That while we believe the Editor was actuated by proper motives, yet we cannot but consider it an infringement on the rights of the Annual Conferences."

A call was made for the previous question, but failed. The amendment also failed. Br. Flood then moved that this item be stricken out, which motion was also lost, and the motion to adopt finally sustained; so the entire report of the Committee was adopted. On the last question, brs. Cullen and Young requested their names to be recorded as voting in the negative.

On motion, the Boundary Committee's report, respecting the division line between the Indiana and Wabash Conferences, (No. 17,) was taken up. Motion was made to adopt, when br. Evans moved that it lie on the table for four years. Pending this motion the Conference adjourned. Prayer by br. J. J. Smith.

AFTERNOON, 2 P. M.

Conference opened with exercises by br. Doniphan. The President in the chair. Roll was called. Br. J. S. Reese, from the Judiciary Committee, presented their report, (Appendix, No. 26,) which, on motion, was laid on the table.

The business in order at the close of the morning session was called up, which was the motion to lay the report of the Boundary Committee, in reference to the division line between the Indiana and Wabash Districts, on the table for 4 years. The mover, by consent, withdrew the latter part of the motion, and then the motion which prevailed, was to lay on the table.

Br. Wilkerson presented the following paper, which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on the Church Periodical, &c.:

On motion the above paper of br. Varden was referred to the Committee on the "Church Periodical," &c.

Br. Johnston, on behalf of the Illinois Annual Conference, presented the following paper, which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Boundaries :

"Resolved, That we petition the General Conference that the line between the Illinois and the North Illinois Conference be altered as follows, namely : to run from the point where it now strikes the Illinois River, up said river to the North line of Woodford county, thence due East to the State of Indiana."

The following from br. Reed was, on motion, referred to the Committee on the Church Periodical, &c.:

"Resolved, That the Committee on the Church paper and Book Concern be instructed to consider the propriety and necessity of establishing a paper in the West or South-west, under the regulation and direction of the General Conference, and also of establishing a branch of the Book Concern at some point West or South-west, with the right to publish our Church Books."

Br. Whitfield, from the Special Committee of Five, to whom was referred the matters from North Illinois, implicating the Editor of the Methodist Protestant, made a report, (Appendix, No. 22,) which was laid on the table to make way for the report of the Board of Home and Foreign Missions.

Br. Bassett, on behalf of the last-named Committee, reported as follows, which, after its reading, was laid on the table. (Appendix No. 23.)

The consideration of the report of the Special Committee, just above referred to, was again taken up and motion made for adoption. After some discussion, br. Scott proposed an amendment to strike out the words "have the right" and insert "are required," which amendment prevailed. Br. Scott called for a division of the report, the first member ending with "in the Methodist Protestant," and which was adopted.

To the remaining member br. Scott offered an amendment by inserting the words "under the direction of the Book Committee" after the words "discretionary power." The question came up, therefore, on this amendment. Pending the discussion Conference adjourned to 8 A. M., to-morrow. Prayer by br. J. E. Smith.

TUESDAY, May 9th.

The President called the Conference to order. Services conducted by br. Short.

The roll was called. The minutes of the preceding day read and adopted.

Br. Woodhouse, from the Committee on "Allowance of Ministers," made a perfected report, (Appendix No. 24,) which, after being read, was laid on the table.

The same Committee returned a paper which had been referred to them from br. Clancy, (see page 25,) and asked its reference to the Executive Committee, which was ordered.

of Grace, the 1st item in which was yesterday laid on the table, was taken up and that 1st item considered. Motion was made to adopt, when br Evans proposed to amend that item in the report by striking out the word "*adversely*" and insert "*favorably*." Br. Southerland contended that the proposition was a substitute, and not in order. The President (br. Thomson) ruled it an amendment. Br. Southerland appealed from this decision, when the Conference sustained the chair. So the question came up on the amendment of br. Evans.

Without taking the question, at 5 $\frac{1}{4}$, P. M., Conference adjourned. Prayer by br. Burns.

WEDNESDAY, May 10th.

Conference called to order. The President in the chair. Services conducted by br. Wilson of Md. The roll was called, after which the minutes were read and adopted.

Reports of Committees being first in order, br. E. Y. Reese, from the Committee on "Ratio of Representation," reported in terms following, (Appendix, No. 28.) which, on motion, was laid on the table.

Br. Shaver, on behalf of the Committee on "Orders," reported as follows. (Appendix, No. 29.) Laid on the table.

Br. Whitfield, from the Committee on Journals, made this report, (Appendix, No. 30,) which, on motion, was laid on the table.

Br. J. S. Reese, from the Judiciary Committee, reported as follows. (Appendix, No. 31.) Laid on the table.

Br. W. W. Walker made the following report on behalf of the Committee on Finance. (Appendix, No. 32).

The business in order was here called up, which was the amendment of br. Evans to the 1st item of the report on Means of Grace, and the proposition was to strike out "*adversely*" and insert "*favorably*." Br. Starr asked a division of the question, which then came up on "*striking out*." This the Conference refused to do, and then the question on adopting the item prevailed; so the entire report is disposed of.

On motion of br. Wright, the report of the Committee on Boundaries, touching the lines between the Indiana and Wabash Districts, and yesterday laid on the table, was taken up. Motion was on adoption, when that part of it which relates to the two Conferences was stricken out. Motion was then made to amend, by adding "with the consent of the Indiana Conference," which was lost. The report, as amended by striking out as above, was then adopted.

Br. J. McCaskey, of Pittsburg, and a member of the Convention of 1828, was, on motion of br. Bassett, invited to take a seat at pleasure within the bar.

Br. Whitfield, from the Committee on Journals, made a report in reference to a matter referred to them from the New Jersey Conference, but was permitted subsequently to withdraw it that the Committee might make another report. Report subsequently adopted. (Appendix, No. 33.)

Br. Woodhouse introduced the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Paper and Book Concern be requested to inquire and report as to the propriety or expediency of inserting in the future editions of our Book of Discipline, in connection with each Article of Religion, one or more texts of Scripture upon which the said article is founded or by which the same may be defended and supported, and also to make and insert a copious Index to the Discipline."

Br. Tevis offered the following :

Resolved, That the Judiciary Committee be requested to take into consideration the necessity of inserting a clause in our Book of Discipline, prohibiting the making, buying, selling or in any wise using intoxicating liquors as a beverage, and report to this Conference. On motion the paper was referred as asked.

Br. Laishley, from the Boundary Committee, submitted the following report: "The Committee on Boundaries beg leave to recommend the following alteration in the line of the boundaries of Illinois Conference, namely, to run from the point where it now strikes the Illinois River, up said river to the North line of Woodford county, thence due East to the State line of Indiana." On motion to adopt an amendment was proposed and sustained, to add to the close of the report: "with the consent of the North Illinois Conference." The Report as amended was then adopted.

On motion of br. Laishley the two reports of the Boundary Committee, relating to the Platte District and the Des Moines Mission, were taken from the table, and by consent withdrawn to give place to the following reports :

1st. In regard to the Platte District, (Appendix, No. 27,) which, on motion, was adopted.

2d. "The Committee on Boundaries have had under consideration the petition, as presented by Judge Hosken, from the Des Moines Mission, and beg leave to report that, by mutual agreement between the delegate of the Platte District and the Honorary Member from the Mission, the lines of said Mission be as follows: Commencing at Hannibal on the Mississippi River, up said river to the Iowa line, thence up the Northern line of the State of Missouri to the Charitan River, thence down said river to the State road leading from St. Johns to Hannibal, thence down said road to the place of beginning. We the Committee recommend to the favorable consideration of the Conference the above described tract of country as a suitable field for Missionary operations, being rich and fertile, and filling up with a dense population." This report was referred to the "Committee on Home and Foreign Missions."

Br. Young offered the following, which was referred to the Committee on Home and Foreign Missions:

Resolved, That this General Conference hereby instruct the Committee on Home and Foreign Missions to "inquire into the propriety of establishing a Mission in Chicago, Illinois."

On motion of br. J. G. Smith the report of the Committee on Means

Br. Whitfield called up the unfinished business of Friday, (page 21.) which was the second item of a resolution of his, referring papers to the College Committee with instructions. Br. Whitfield proposed to amend that item by "instructing the Committee to inquire *what* relation Madison College sustains to this Conference?" This amendment was sustained, and resolution thus adopted.

On motion, the following, offered by br. Tozer, was referred to the Committee on the Church Periodical:—"Resolved, to add to 3d section in the Book of Discipline, on page 132, at the end of said section, "Who, in the event of resignation, death, or removal of the Book Agent and Editor, shall engage and employ another Agent and Editor to serve until the session of the ensuing General Conference."

On motion, a second report of the Committee on Means of Grace, relating to love-feasts, &c., in Discipline, pages 61 and 62, was taken up, and motion was made for adoption. Bro. Starr called for a division of the report, when the question was upon its first member, recommending the striking out of that part of the Discipline, p. 61, sec. 5, "to renew tickets quarterly," &c., ending with the "admission of improper persons." Under the discussion of the question, at 5½ P. M., Conference adjourned to 8 A. M. to morrow morning. Prayer by br. Horn.

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 11.

Conference met at the hour appointed. President in the chair. Services by br. F. Davis. Roll called, and the minutes adopted. The chair announced br. T. A. Reed as a member of the Committee on Church Paper, &c., in the place of br. Miller, retired from Conference.

Committees' reports were called for; the following were read:—Br. Bassett, from the Committee on Missions, touching Des Moines and Chicago Missions. Laid on the table. (Appendix, No. 36.)

Br. E. Y. Reese, from the Committee on Ratio of Representation, read a report recommending the number to be raised to 1,750 members, which on motion was laid on the table. (Appendix, No. 37.)

Br. Tozer, on behalf of the Committee on the Church Paper, &c., submitted a report, which also was laid on the table. (App. No. 38.)

Br. J. S. Reese reported from the Judiciary Committee, which report was likewise laid on the table. (Appendix, No. 39.)

The first business in order, after the reception of reports, was that under consideration at the hour of adjournment the preceding day, the consideration of the report of the Committee on Means of Grace. The question was on adopting the first member, (see p. 32,) when, on motion of br. Southerland, the member was again divided; the first question being on the words "to renew the tickets quarterly," &c., down to the words "into love-feasts." A call was made for the yeas and nays, but not sustained; a call also for a vote by order was determined. That item in the report was adopted by an affirmative vote of ministers and laymen. The second item, down to the words "desire to be present," after a call for the previous question being sustained, was also adopted by an affirmative vote of ministers and laymen.

"*Resolved*, That we will, on Friday next, at 10 o'clock, proceed to appoint a place for the meeting of the next General Conference."

On motion of br. Cullen the Judiciary Committee's report, No. 20, in reference to the difficulties between the Illinois and the North Illinois Conference referred to them, was taken up, in which the Committee assume that the General Conference has no control over the matters involved, when, on further motion, the report was adopted.

Br. Bassett moved to take up the Report of the Committee on Home and Foreign Missions, but withdrew to give place to the motion to take up the Executive Committee's Report, made yesterday. This motion was sustained, and so much of said report as relates to the subject of Slavery, together with the resolution of the North Illinois Conference referred to them, was referred to a Special Committee of five. That Committee is as follows:—P. T. Laishley, Daniel Young, Jno. Davis, Fletcher Tevis, C. W. Button.

Br. Bassett renewed his motion to take from the table the report of the Committee on Home and Foreign Missions, No. 23, which prevailed.

On motion of br. Laishley, the report was considered item by item. The 1st, 2d, and 3d items were then adopted. On the consideration of the 4th item, br. Button introduced an amendment to be affixed to said item, but was by consent subsequently withdrawn; when, on motion, that item was adopted. Pending the investigation of the report, Conference adjourned. Prayer by br. Reeves.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 P. M.

Conference called to order. The President in the chair. Services by br. Laishley. After the roll-call, on motion, the report under consideration at the hour of adjournment was taken up, when the several items as therein marked were adopted; and so the report was confirmed.

Br. Tevis presented a communication (Appendix, No. 34) from Jno. K. Dawson, of Iowa, touching matters in connection with the interests of the Church in that district, which, after being read, was, with the papers accompanying it, referred to the College Committee.

Br. Varden presented a communication from br. Oliver Cox, asking the Conference to consider the propriety of establishing a "Fire Insurance Association" under its patronage, &c. On being read, the letter was referred to the Finance Committee. (Appendix, No. 35).

Br. Miller was, on motion, relieved from attendance on the Conference the balance of the session.

Br. Brown presented the following paper, which on motion was referred to the College Committee:—"The agent of Madison College, who traveled in the Maryland District last winter, reported to the Board of Trustees a donation of 700 or 750 *unbound* vols. of Snethen's Sermons, by the Rev. Ulysses Ward, for the benefit of said Institution. Question—'What is the best disposition to be made of those sermons, to answer the benevolent design of the donor?'"

\$200. Debate continued until 5 P.M., when, on motion, the rules were suspended to admit of certain matters proposed to be introduced.

Br. Laishley, from the Special Committee on Slavery, presented a report, signed by four of its members. (Appendix, No. 45.)

Br. Young, a member of the above special committee, on his own behalf, made a minority report. (Appendix, No. 46.)

The two reports last referred to were, on motion, laid on the table.

On motion, br. Clancy was, from indisposition, excused from the Committee on Church Paper, &c., and br. Jno. Scott appointed in his place.

Br. J. J. Smith presented the following, which was referred to the Committee on Church Paper, &c.:

Resolved, That in the future editions of our Book of Discipline, the Index of the Constitution and Discipline shall be alphabetically arranged.

After several motions and amendments to adjourn, Conference finally, at 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ P. M., adjourned to 8 o'clock to-morrow morning. Prayer by br. Parsons.

FRIDAY MORNING, May 12.

At 8 A. M., the hour to which Conference adjourned, called to order by the President. Services by br. Robison.

After the roll-call, the minutes of yesterday, as read, were adopted.

Reports of committees being first in order, on motion, the rules were suspended to admit the reading of a letter from R. T. Boyd, of Maryland, to the General Conference, suggesting several amendments to the Discipline, which, on motion, was referred to the Executive Committee.

Br. J. Scott, from the Committee on Church Paper, &c., reported, which, on being read, was laid on the table. (Appendix, No. 47.)

Br. Whitfield, on behalf of the Committee on Journals, made a final report, as follows:—"Committee on Journals beg leave to report that they have examined all the Journals presented to them, and already reported on them. Only some fourteen Conferences have thus far presented their Journals to your Committee. We respectfully ask a discharge from further duties." The report was accepted, and the Committee discharged. The vote discharging the Committee was reconsidered, and the motion to discharge withdrawn.

The chair called the attention of Conference to the matter under consideration at the hour of adjournment the past evening. The question is, the amendment of br. Starr to the report of the Committee on Allowance, &c., to strike out from the first resolution \$200 and insert \$150. After some debate, the *previous question* was called for and sustained; when, the vote being taken, the Conference negatived the amendment.

A motion of br. J. Scott to lay all the reports of Financial Committee and Committee on Allowance, &c., on the table for four years, and refer the whole subject to the Annual Conferences, was subsequently withdrawn.

Br. Thomson submitted a substitute, which on being read, he

The third division—viz: from the preceding words down to “the admission of improper persons”—*was negatived*; immediately previous to which, the President decided that “a vote by order does not necessarily imply a vote by yeas and nays.” Br. Starr appealed from this decision; the Conference sustained the chair.

The fourth and remaining item—viz: “No superintendent either of a circuit or station,” &c., down to the words “religious confidence and edification”—was adopted, thus disposing finally of the report.

Br. Cullen was excused from attendance on the further sittings of the Conference.

Br. Brown presented the “Constitution of Madison College Endowment Society,” (Appendix, No. 40,) which, on being read, was referred to the College Committee.

Br. Brown also presented a paper from Samuel K. Cox, certifying to the appointment of certain gentlemen by the above Society to wait on the General Conference, to represent the interests of Madison College before the Conference, and also from W. D. Barclay, desiring the same and other gentlemen to represent the Board of Trustees of Madison College; which two papers were directed to be filed. At this point br. Brown introduced Gen. Howell and Hon. Mr. Stewart, named in the above papers, who were, on motion, invited to make any communications to the Conference in reference to Madison College at a proper time. (Appendix, No. 41, 42.)

On motion, the report of the Committee on Allowance of Ministers, No. 24, was taken up, when, by consent, the reports of the Finance Committee, as also the minority report from the same committee, were read.

Motion to take up the report by items was adopted; when the first item, being the Preamble, down to the words “but must be greatly embarrassed,” was adopted. The second item, being the first Resolution, fixing the salary of a single minister at \$200, was taken up. Br. Starr moved an amendment, to strike out \$200 and insert \$150. Br. Whitfield offered an amendment to the amendment, by inserting “not less than” before \$150. During the discussion of this point Conference adjourned. Prayer by br. Bassett.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 P. M.

Conference called to order by the President. Religious services by br. Wallace.

Br. Whitfield, from the Committee on Journals, reported in reference to an act of the Ohio Conference, (Appendix, No. 43,) which was laid on the table.

Br. Walker made a further report from the Finance Committee, in regard to scheme of a Fire Insurance Company, suggested by br. O. Cox, which, on motion, was laid on the table. (Appendix, No. 44.)

The business under discussion at the hour of adjournment this forenoon now came up in order. The question was on the amendment to the amendment, viz: to insert “not less than” before \$150. After some further debate, the amendment to the amendment was lost. Question next upon the amendment of inserting \$150 in the place of

such as may be recommended for the government of deliberative bodies in the Methodist Protestant Church."

Br. Dorsey offered the following:—

"*Resolved*, That the 'course of reading' described in the Discipline be revised, with a view to enlargement and classification; and that a committee of five, to be called the 'Theological Committee,' be appointed for the purpose of making this revision, and for the consideration of other appropriate subjects which may be referred to them."

Referred to the following Committee:—D. B. Dorsey, George Brown, Z. Ragan, J. S. Reese, R. B. Thomson.

On motion of br. Johnston, the report of the Boundary Committee, recognizing the South Illinois District, was taken up and adopted.

On motion of br. Laishley, Conference resolved to go into election of the Board of Missions at 3 P. M.

On motion of br. Ragan, br. W. B. Evans was invited to deliver a sermon to the Conference at some period of the session, at his convenience.

Br. Brown presented the Treasurer's report of Madison College, (Appendix, No. 48,) which was referred to the College Committee.

On motion of br. Laishley, the report of the Committee on Journals, in reference to the Ohio Conference Journal, was taken up, and motion made to adopt. Br. Bassett submitted a paper from the Ohio Conference in explanation of the matter referred to by the Committee, when br. Wills moved to append the explanation to the report. This last motion failed, when, by consent, the "explanation" was withdrawn. Previous question was called and sustained, when the report was adopted.

Br. Laishley offered the following, which, under the operation of the previous question, was laid on the table:—

"*Resolved*, That the receiving and appointing of Rev. J. Varden to the Cincinnati Station by the Ohio Conference, without a transfer from the Maryland District, is contrary to the law of the church."

Br. Button also presented the following:—" *Resolved*, That, in the judgment of this Conference, it is a violation of the 7th section of the 10th article of the Constitution, to appoint a minister to any station more than two successive times." This resolution was likewise, under the action of the previous question, laid on the table.

Br. J. S. Reese presented the following, which was adopted:—

"*Resolved*, That the appointment of Rev. J. Varden to the Cincinnati Station the third time by the Ohio Annual Conference, under the then existing circumstances, does not call for censure by this General Conference."

On motion at 12, M., Conference adjourned. Prayer by br. J. S. Reese.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 P. M.

President in the chair. Conference came to order. Services by br. Turner.

Br. Catterlin obtained leave of absence the balance of the session.

moved to lay all the reports of the Finance Committee and Committee on Allowance, &c., on the table for four years. At the conclusion of some remarks on the question, the chair announced that the reports of the Finance Committee not being before the Conference, the motion to lay on the table referred only to the reports of the Committee of Laymen, on Allowance, &c. This motion did not embrace the preamble to the report, that having been previously adopted. The motion was divided, and the question taken on laying on the table, which prevailed. The second motion, "for four years," did not prevail.

Ten o'clock having arrived, the order of the day was announced, viz: the determining the place for holding the next General Conference. On motion, it was determined that three minutes only be allowed to members in urging their nominations. The following places were put in nomination:—Cincinnati, Ohio; Lynchburg, Va.; Atlanta, Ga.; Princeton, Ill.; New York City; Edinburg, Ia.; Lebanon, Tenn.; Montgomery, Ala.; Pruntytown, Va. The vote was as follows:—Edinburg, 1; Lebanon, 1; New York, 4; Cincinnati, 17; Lynchburg, 35—Total, 58. Lynchburg, therefore, is declared as the place for holding the next General Conference.

Br. Thomson offered the following:—

"Whereas, by reason of the great difference which exists in the expenses of living in the various parts of our wide-spread work in the United States, it is impracticable to fix any uniform salary for the itinerant ministers and preachers; therefore,

"*Resolved*, 1. That this General Conference recommends the different Annual Conferences to regulate and fix the salaries and allowance of their itinerant ministers, preachers, &c., as the peculiarities of their different sections of country may require.

"*Resolved*, 2. That those parts of the Discipline which relate to the support of itinerant ministers, &c., be so altered as to agree with the foregoing resolution."

Motion was made for adoption. The *previous question* was called for and sustained, when the preamble and resolutions were adopted.

The following, offered by br. Brown, was, on motion, adopted:

"Inasmuch as the Convention of 1830 made provision for that class of ministers known among us as Unstationed, so that they might be eligible as delegates to the General Conference; and whereas our elementary principles teach that 'all elders in the Church of God are equal;' therefore, *Resolved*, that this General Conference affectionately recommend the different Electoral Colleges, where practicable, to elect a suitable proportion of ministers, not under the stationing authority, as delegates to the General Conference.

(Signed)

GEO. BROWN.

JOHN S. REESE."

Br. J. F. Smith presented the following, which was referred to the Executive Committee: "*Resolved*, That in the future editions of our Discipline there shall be published a draft of Rules of Order,

SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 13.

Conference called to order by the President, 8 o'clock, A. M.
Services conducted by br. Camper.

Reports of Committees being first in order, the following were presented and acted on :

1. Br. E. Y. Reese, from the Committee on Ratio, &c., reported as follows:—"The Committee on Ratio, &c., beg leave to report further, that no new district shall be set off, unless the section thus proposed to be set off shall contain an equal number of members with the number of ratio of representation in the old Conferences, except in case of frontier districts, which, however, shall contain at least 1,000 members." Adopted.

2. Report of Executive Committee, touching br. Boyd's suggestions and br. J. F. Smith's resolution, which, on motion, was adopted. (Appendix, No. 49.)

The business of the preceding day was announced. The 5th item of the report, under consideration at adjournment, touching the restoration of certain letters to the Hymn-Book, came up. On motion of br. Laishley, both the motion to adopt and the item itself were laid on the table.

On motion, the balance of the report was laid on the table.

Br. J. Scott, from the Committee on the Church Paper, &c., presented a report, which was laid on the table. (Appendix, No. 50.)

On motion, the Conference took up for consideration the report of the Committee on Journals, (No. 30,) the several items of which were adopted.

The following resolution of br. Reed was adopted:—"Resolved, that we regard the Missionary and Sabbath School Journal, published by the Board of Foreign Missions, as an important publication, well calculated to promote the Missionary and Sabbath School interests of the Church; and we earnestly commend it to the patronage of the Church throughout the entire extent of our work."

The report of the Committee on Home and Foreign Missions was taken up. The 1st item, that of setting off and recommending Des Moines Mission, was considered, and motion made to adopt the report, as also the report of the Boundary Committee, referred to them and accompanying it, and which embraced the same subject. After considerable debate, previous question being called for and sustained, the motion to adopt prevailed, carrying with it the report.

The order of the day, viz: the election of the Board of Missions, having been previously suspended, was called, and the following members appointed by nomination:—Revs. Wm. Collier, Jno. Scott, George Brown, P. T. Laishley, and Jno. Clarke; Messrs. Wm. J. Troth, Wm. Miller, Jno. McCasky, Chas. Craig, Wm. Henderson, Jno. L. Sands, James Rind.

Br. Ashton obtained leave of absence the balance of the session.

On motion, so much of the Executive Committee's report as relates to "Home Missionaries" was taken up, and, on motion, recommitted to the Committee.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Church Paper, &c., submitted this morning, was taken up. On motion by br. Scott for adoption, a division thereof was called for, and Conference proceeded to discuss the items. The 1st item, embracing the matter on the first page, and down to, and ending with, the words "General Conference," was adopted. The 2d item, down to the words, "Church Paper," &c., was also adopted. The 3d item, including "our Hymn-Book and Discipline," came up for adoption. At this point, three o'clock arriving, on motion, the business appointed for the hour, viz: the appointing of the Board of Missions, was postponed to the hour of 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Conference continued the consideration of the above report. Several verbal amendments were proposed to the 3d item, until the following was determined on:—"We recommend that any one or more Annual Conferences, on their own pecuniary responsibility, entering into the arrangement, be authorized to establish." After a somewhat lengthy debate, the previous question was called but not sustained, when the amendment prevailed. This 3d item, as thus amended, was adopted, and to come in after the word "*involved*," at the head of the 3d page.

At 5 P. M. Conference adjourned to 7½ o'clock P. M. Prayer by br. Evans.

EVENING SESSION, 7½ P. M.

The President in the chair. Conference opened with services by br. Ragan.

After the call of the roll, the Conference proceeded to the consideration of the subject under discussion at the hour of adjournment. The 4th item of the report of the Committee on the Church Paper, &c., therefore came up, and motion was made for adoption. Motion was made to lay on the table both the motion and the item, but was subsequently withdrawn. A motion, previously made, to refer that part of the item under consideration, determining the proper steps to pursue, to a special committee of five, was adopted. *Committee*—G. Clancy, J. G. Whitfield, J. Scott, C. W. Button, Z. Ragan.

On motion, the further part of that item, viz: "and to repeal all provisions of the Discipline inconsistent with the proposed arrangement," was adopted.

On motion, the further consideration of the report was suspended, to admit of a resolution of br. J. S. Reese, as follows: "*Resolved*, by the General Conference, that the Book Directory be authorized and directed to pay to the Western Conferences \$2,000, to aid them in establishing their Periodical and Book Concern;" which, together with the following amendment, offered by br. Starr, was referred to the Special Committee above referred to: "and that the Committee be instructed to inquire what probable number of Conferences will go into the arrangement."

Resuming the consideration of the report, the question came up on the adoption of the 5th item; pending which, Conference adjourned to 8 o'clock to-morrow morning. Prayer by br. Brown.

up and moved to adopt. Br. J. J. Smith moved that "1,750" be stricken out, and "2,000" inserted in its place. The amendment was negatived, and the report adopted; thus fixing the number, one ministerial and one lay representative for every 1,750 members.

The report of Judiciary Committee, No. 8, p. 16, was taken up. The several items were considered. The 1st item proposed to strike out of the Discipline all of the article on "Means of Grace," p. 91, except that portion in which the means of grace are stated. This item was amended, and finally, as amended, adopted, by striking out at the place referred to, in the second line of the second sentence, the words "any of," so as to read "members of the Church who willfully habitually neglect these means of grace," &c.

The 2d item, as follows, was adopted: at the end of paragraph 2d, p. 37, insert, "This provision shall likewise apply to ministers and preachers."

The 3d and remaining item was negatived.

Moved by br. Whitfield, that "it be the sense of this General Conference that the presiding officer in any trial shall be the judge of all questions of law that may arise in the case." Adopted.

On motion, the Judiciary report, No. 17, page 22, was taken up and divided. On the consideration of the 1st item, it was, on motion, laid on the table, which carries with it the whole report.

Judiciary Committee report, No. 26, p. 29, was taken up. The 1st item was adopted, which amends the Discipline on p. 43, by adding at the end of section 2d, "When a case is so referred, a prosecutor shall be appointed by the Conference in behalf of the Church."

The 2d item was also adopted, amending the Discipline on p. 48, by adding at the end of section 3d, "And the Conference shall appoint a prosecutor in behalf of the Church," &c.

The 3d item was adopted, which provides that "The Annual Conferences respectively shall provide for the payment of any expenses incurred in bringing committees from a distance to take part in judicial investigations." So the entire report was thus adopted.

Judiciary report; No. 39, p. 33, was taken up. The two items were considered in connection, when br. Wills offered the following amendment: "Nevertheless, it is competent for any other member to prefer charges." The amendment prevailed, and the report, as amended, adopted; thus amending the Discipline on p. 67, section 5, by adding the amendment at the end of the words on p. 67, 7th line, "shall prosecute the case," thus making it to read, "the chairman of which, if it be found necessary, shall prosecute the case. Nevertheless, it is competent for any other member to prefer charges."

It was proposed to take up another report of the Judiciary Committee, but without any thing definite, Conference adjourned at 5 P. M. Prayer by br. Dawson.

MONDAY MORNING, May 15th.

Conference called to order by the President at 8 A. M., the hour to which the Conference stood adjourned. Services by br. Whitfield.

The roll was called. Minutes of Saturday were read and adopted.

Br. Varden presented the following resolutions of the Maryland Conference, which, on motion, were referred to the Judiciary Committee:—

1. *Resolved*, That members of the Methodist Protestant Church who habitually absent themselves from the public preaching of God's Word, and other means of grace, after being duly advised and warned by their leader or the superintendent, may, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Quarterly Conference at any regular meeting, be noted on the Church Register thus: "*Dropt*." This provision, however, shall not be so construed as to deprive any person of a trial by Committee, as provided for in the Book of Discipline.

2. *Resolved*, That members who cannot be found by the superintendent or leader, on being so reported to the Quarterly Conference at a stated meeting of that body, shall be considered as removed, and may, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present, be recorded on the Church Register thus: "*Discontinued*."

The following resolution of br. Laishley was adopted: "*Resolved*, That the Des Moines Mission be placed under the authority of the Board of Missions, to be by them supplied according to their best judgment in the premises."

On motion, the Majority and Minority Reports on Slavery, Nos. 45 and 46, were taken up

Motion was made by br. Whitfield to adopt the minority report. Br. Flood moved to amend by striking out "at least," and also the word "some," and inserting in its place "many."

After some remarks by br. Flood, the motion to lay the whole matter on the table, to admit a resolution from br. Ragan, was adopted. On this motion br. Young desired his name to be entered in the negative.

Br. Ragan introduced the following:—" *Resolved*, That, according to the Constitution of the Methodist Protestant Church, taking the Word of God for the rule, the Local Judiciary, and not the General Conference, is the proper tribunal by which all questions of morality, bearing upon the standing of members of the Methodist Protestant Church, should be determined." The previous question was called and sustained, and the motion to adopt confirmed. Br. Young desired his name to be entered in the negative.

On motion, two members were added to the Committee appointed last night to consider the Western paper proposition, and were—Jno. S. Reese, and J. M. Flood.

Conference adjourned. Prayer by br. J. Scott.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 P. M.

Conference called to order by the President. Services by br. Wills.

Br. Evans was excused from attendance on the Conference the balance of the session.

On motion of br. Wills, the report of the Committee on Ratio of Representation, No. 28, was taken up and adopted.

Report No. 37 from the same Committee was, on motion, also taken

4th item adopted, amending the Discipline, page 66, by adding at the end of section 2d, these words: "And he shall hand over the records of his society to his successor."

5th item adopted.

6th item Moved to amend by striking out all after the word "jurisdiction." On motion, this item was finally laid on the table, which disposes of the report.

Br. Reed offered an amendment to Discipline, page 61, section 5, to insert after the words "*improper persons*" these words, "into love feasts with the consent of the Quarterly Conference." After being divided, the question on both divisions prevailed; so the amendment is adopted.

Report of Committee on Orders, No. 29, was taken up. After some debate on the 1st item, recommending that the order of Deacon shall not be discontinued, and after motion to adopt, motion was made to lay on the table. During the discussion, the Conference adjourned. Prayer by br. Dorsey.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 P. M.

The President being absent, Conference called to order by the 1st Secretary; services by br. Laishley. The President then took the Chair.

Brs. Johnson and Camper obtained leave of absence the balance of the Session.

Br. Clancy, from the Special Committee to whom was referred the subject of maturing a plan for the establishment of a Paper and Book Concern in the West, made a report, (Appendix, No. 52,) which was laid on the table.

Br. Ragan, from the Executive Committee, reported on matters referred to them, which, on motion, was laid on the table, (App. No. 53.)

Br. Flood, from the Committee on Sabbath Schools, read the following report, which was laid on the table. (Appendix, No. 54.)

The report of the Committee on Orders, under consideration at the hour of adjournment this morning, was taken up, when, on motion, it was laid on the table.

The Special Committee's report on the Church Paper, &c., introduced this afternoon, 1st Part was, on motion, taken up. Motion made to adopt, then to take up by items.

1st item adopted, with the following amendment of br. Scott to be appended: "And the title of the Western paper to be 'The Western Methodist Protestant.'"

2d item adopted, with the following amendment of br. Laishley, to be added at the close of the 1st section: "and Methodist Protestant," thus providing for publishing in the last named paper as well as in the Western Recorder.

3d item adopted, after an amendment offered by br. Scot was negatived.

4th item adopted.

5th item adopted, with the following amendment offered by br. Scott, to come in at the close of the item: "Provided, however, if the

Brs. Woodhouse and Smith obtained leave of absence for the remaining part of the session.

Brs. Carson and Webb obtained permission to enter their protest against the alteration made in the Discipline on "Means of Grace."

Committees' Reports were called for. Br. Bassett reported on behalf of the Committee on "Statistics" (Appendix, No. 51,) which, on motion, was adopted.

Br. Armstrong offered a paper relating to the establishing of a Newspaper, &c, in the West, which on being read, the President ruled that, in view of the previous action of the Conference, the paper could not be entertained.

On motion, the Report of the Executive Committee, No. 14, was taken up as far as the 3d item is concerned, touching a matter referred to them in a letter from br. J. A. Kennedy, of Washington city, br. Clancy offered the following: "Whereas the question contained in the letter addressed to this Conference by br. J. A. Kennedy of the Maryland District, directly involves the title to property of individual churches; and whereas this General Conference is not authorized by the Constitution of the Church to decide the meaning of the section of the Constitution referred to in said letter; therefore, *resolved*, that it is deemed inexpedient for the General Conference to express any opinion upon the question of br. Kennedy. *Resolved*, that the Secretary be directed to forward to said brother a copy of this preamble and resolutions. which were adopted as the action of the Conference, the Committee not having agreed thereon."

On motion, the report was then considered by items. The 1st item, recommending the erasure of the 2d section on page 35, touching membership in Stations, and inserting the words "In stations, admittance to full membership shall be by the vote of a majority of the class to which the member is attached," was adopted.

The 2d item, touching the striking out, sec. 5, page 42, was, after some discussion, and some propositions to amend, recommitted to the Committee.

The 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th items were severally adopted. The 10th and remaining item, relating to Electoral Colleges, was adopted, which provides for the emendation of the Discipline on page 57, as follows: "The Electoral College shall assemble during the Session of the Annual Conference, and shall be organized by the appointment of a Chairman, Secretary, three Judges, &c.

On motion, the Executive Committee's report, No. 19, was taken up, and passed upon by items.

The 1st item adopted.

2d item, adopted, which amends the Discipline on page 71, at the end of 5th section, to add: "After paying any debts that may exist against said society."

3d item adopted, thus amending the Discipline on page 62, section 8, line 4th, the word "*same*" to be stricken out, and the words "two latter, with the names of all the male members in full membership, over the age of 21 years," to be inserted.

Br. Armstrong asked to enter his protest against the proceedings in the case.

Br. Thomson, on behalf of the College Committee, presented a report, which, on being read, was laid on the table. (Appendix, No. 55.)

Brs. Tozer and Turner were excused from attendance on the further sittings of the Conference.

The following resolution of br. Laishley was adopted by a rising vote :—

“Resolved, unanimously, That the thanks of this General Conference be tendered to our friends in Steubenville for their kind hospitality in the entertainment of its members during the present session; and that the sense of the Conference on the above resolution be taken by a rising vote, and the Editors of this City be respectfully requested to publish said resolution in their respective papers.”

An amendment was adopted, including in the vote of thanks those Pastors whose churches have been kindly opened to us.

Conference adjourned to 8 o'clock to-morrow morning. Prayer by br. E. Y. Reese.

TUESDAY MORNING, May 16th.

Conference called to order at 8 o'clock A.M., by the President. Services by br. J. J. Smith.

Br. Armstrong desired that the protest which he offered yesterday against the action of the Conference in regard to the establishment of a new paper, &c., be inserted in writing.

Objection was made to its being entered on the Journal, but was overruled by the Conference, and the protest admitted. (Appendix, No. 56.)

Br. Dorsey offered a resolution directing that a committee of three be appointed to write out the doings of the Conference in regard to the action thereof, on the subject of Periodicals, &c., to give our “fellowship the whole of the reasons,” &c. The motion to adopt was negatived.

Br. Scott submitted the following, which was laid on the table :

“Resolved, That this General Conference, by permitting br. Armstrong in entering his protest to assign reasons against its action in establishing a Western Paper and Book Concern, and also in severing the connection heretofore existing between this General Conference and the Methodist Protestant, does not thereby endorse the correctness of his statements and conclusions.”

Br. Starr submitted the following, which was adopted, and with the understanding that it shall be entered at the close of the proceedings in the action of the Conference in reference to the Newspaper and Book Concern :—

“Provided, however, and it is expressly understood, that in the arrangements made by this General Conference in regard to a division of the Book Concern, and the establishment of periodicals and the publication of books by such Annual Conferences as may think proper

Western Recorder cannot be obtained, the said Commissioners shall be authorized and required to proceed in the safest and most judicious manner to establish a newspaper as above."

6th item adopted, with the amendment that Indiana be stricken from the list there designated.

7th item adopted. After an amendment of br. Laishley had failed, "by proxy or by letter," be stricken out, and providing for the election of Alternates. The 1st part of the report, which relates to the establishment of a Western paper, &c., is thus disposed of.

Conference adjourned to 7½ P. M. Prayer by br. Burdine.

EVENING SESSION.

Conference called to order at 7½ P. M. by the President. Services by br. J. F. Smith.

On motion, the 2d part of the Special Committee's report, which provides for the Methodist Protestant paper and Book Concern, was taken up and divided into items. The 1st item was adopted with the following amendments. In the 8th line, after the word "*sustaining*," insert "or may hereafter sustain," and in the 12th line, strike out "third Wednesday in May next," and insert "1st Wednesday in June, 1855." An amendment to the whole, by striking out the word "*authorize*" wherever it may occur, and inserting the word "*recommended*" in its place.

The 2d, 3d, and 4th items were severally adopted, as was also the 5th and remaining one, with an amendment by adding to the list of Conferences, "Boston, Missouri and Pennsylvania." Report thus disposed of.

Br. J. Scott, offered the following resolution which was adopted: "*Resolved* that should any of the Annual Conferences in our work, not enter into the above arrangement in connection with either paper, such Conference shall retain its claim upon the Book Concern at Baltimore, as if no new arrangement had been made by this General Conference."

The following, offered by br. Ragan, was also adopted: "It is hereby definitely provided and agreed that the General Conference is released, in law and equity, from all pecuniary liabilities which may be incurred in conducting and carrying on the Methodist Protestant and Book Concern in Baltimore.

Signed, Z. RAGAN,
R. B. THOMSON."

The following was likewise adopted. "Inasmuch as the General Conference has with so much good feeling and unanimity entered into the above arrangements, therefore, *resolved*, that this General Conference affectionately recommends to the different Annual Conferences that they promptly and harmoniously entertain the arrangements thus recommended by this body; and that we will freely and fully give our patronage to the periodicals we have recommended.

(Signed) JNO. S. REESE,
GEO. CLANCY."

Br. Wilkerson presented a paper (Appendix, No. 58) defining the boundary lines of the West Tennessee District, and ratifying the action of the Tennessee Conference in relation to the same, which was adopted.

Conference adjourned. Prayer by br. Ragan.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 P. M.

President in the chair. Conference called to order. Services by br. Varden.

Brs. Carson and Varden asked to have their written protest entered against the action of the Conference in reference to the alteration of the Discipline on "Means of Grace." (Appendix, No. 59.)

Br. Vickers asked and obtained leave of absence the balance of the session.

Report of the Judiciary Committee of 10th of May was taken up. The 1st and 2d items were adopted, and the 3d and last item laid on the table.

Br. A. H. Bassett, appointed by the last General Conference to take charge of and transcribe the records of the last and preceding General Conference, &c., made a report, which, on motion, was adopted. (Appendix. No. 60.)

Br. Brown presented the following resolutions, (Appendix, No. 61;) the previous question was called for and sustained, and they were adopted.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Sabbath Schools was taken up. The 1st item, embracing the first paragraph and the two resolutions, was adopted. The 2d item, being the remainder of the report, was laid on the table.

The report of the Committee on Church Paper, &c., recommending the index to Discipline to be alphabetically arranged, was taken up and adopted.

Br. E. Y. Reese offered the following, which was adopted:—

"*Resolved*, That Rev. Wm. H. Wills be instructed to take charge of the General Conference trunk, and at his earliest leisure prepare the minutes for publication, and forward them to the Book Room at Baltimore for that purpose.

"*Resolved*, That br. Wills be employed to transcribe the minutes of the Convention and of the subsequent General Conferences (including this session) in a general record.

"*Resolved*, That the Book Directory be recommended to compensate br. Wills for these labors; and that he send the trunk and record to the Book Agent at Baltimore when the record is completed."

The following resolution was adopted:—"Resolved, That the thanks of this Conference be, and they are hereby unanimously tendered to the President and Secretaries, for the satisfactory performance of their respective and arduous duties during the session.

(Signed)

S. B. SOUTHERLAND,
JNO. S. REESE."

to do so; nothing therein contained shall be so construed as to involve any member or members of this General Conference, in any manner whatever, in any pecuniary liabilities and obligations growing out of the arrangements above referred to."

Br. Scott submitted a preamble and resolutions (Appendix, No. 57) touching the compiling and publishing a new edition of the Hymn-Book, which, on motion, was laid on the table.

The report of the Committee on the Church Paper, &c., partially acted on, and laid on the table the 13th May, was called up, and those parts not disposed of taken up.

The 5th item, proposing to restore to the Hymn-Book the correspondence between the compiler and the Committee, was moved to be adopted. This item was divided, ending with the word "Compiler," and the motion negatived; thus refusing to restore the letter of the compiler. The remaining part of the item, ending with "have been omitted," was also negatived; and so the whole of the 5th item was rejected, under the operation of the previous question, which was called and sustained.

The 6th and 7th items, relating to a copious alphabetical index to the Constitution and Discipline, and the propriety of reducing the price of "our Church literature," were adopted.

The 8th and remaining item, recommending the "establishment of a Tract Society and Depository," was laid on the table. This disposes of the report.

On motion, the paper of br. Scott, proposing to publish a new Hymn-Book, as above noticed, was taken up, and motion made to adopt. After argument, previous question was called and sustained, and the motion for adoption lost.

Br. Dorsey, from the Theological Committee, reported that they were not prepared to attend to the duties assigned them, viz: "revising the course of reading for students in the ministry," &c., and recommended that a committee be appointed to perform this work, and report to the next General Conference.

The report was adopted, and the same committee appointed, as follows: D. B. Dorsey, R. B. Thomson, Geo. Brown, Jno. S. Reese, and Z. Ragan.

On motion, the report of the College Committee, received yesterday, was taken up and adopted.

The Executive Committee's report, No. 53, on matters re-referred to them, &c., was taken up. The 1st item, recommending an amendment of the Discipline relating to "Home Missionaries," was, on motion, laid on the table. The 2d item was adopted, which amends the Discipline under article "Leaders' Meeting" by striking out all of the 5th section, on p. 42. Further amends the Discipline on p. 35, by inserting in section 3, after "Circuits," the words "Stations and Missions," so as to make the section read, "In Circuits, Stations, and Missions, the list of probationers shall be occasionally read over," &c.

APPENDIX.

No. I COMMUNICATION FROM J. S. KENNEDY.

CITY OF WASHINGTON, May 1st, 1854.

To the Members of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church.

DEAR BRETHREN,—As an old member and fast friend of the Methodist Protestant Church, I take the liberty, without comment, to call your attention to a very important subject, which may be called the Property Question.

In this city it has created much excitement and discord;—some construe the language of the Discipline and Constitution of the Church to mean one thing, and some another,—there are various opinions on the subject. See page 18, Art. IV, sec. 3d, and page 71.

March 9th, 1853, I addressed a letter to the President of the Maryland Annual Conference, in session in Baltimore, on this subject. It was taken up by the Conference, referred to a committee, said committee reported, and the following resolution was adopted on Friday, March 11th: “*Resolved*, That, inasmuch as there is a difference of opinion entertained upon this subject, out of respect to the parties, we refer the subject to the action of the next General Conference.”

On Wednesday, March 16th, 5 days after, the Conference reconsidered said resolution, and adopted the following: “*Resolved*, That it is the judgment of this Conference, that when public notice from the pulpit has been given, a meeting of the qualified made members be assembled for the purpose of purchasing, &c., then the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members who attended such meeting, may, according to Constitution, page 18 and 71, purchase!” (See the printed minutes, 1853.)

After the rising of said Maryland Annual Conference, on the 28th day of March, 1853, I addressed a communication to the Methodist Protestant, which was published, calling for information on said subject, but I have not seen published any reply thereto in said paper. Whether any person has thought the subject of importance enough to give it his attention, or whether the communications have been lost on the Editor's table, is not for me to conjecture.

Now, brethren, I do most respectfully, affectionately, and earnestly desire, and believe, that the General Conference should take this important question up, and give it due and impartial consideration, and give an *opinion in full*, not for to purchase *only*, but to sell or dispose of the Church property in any way or manner whatever.

Let the decision be what it will, I, as an individual member, will be content.

Your brother in the Lord,

J. S. KENNEDY.

No. II. REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF MADISON COLLEGE.

To the President and Members of the General Conference of the M. P. Church.

The Trustees of Madison College beg leave, through the undersigned Committee, respectfully to submit the following Report.

At the last session of your body, held at Baltimore in the month of May, 1850, a series of resolutions were adopted, to the effect—

Br. Bassett introduced the following preamble and resolutions touching the death of Rev. Asa Shinn and others, (Appendix, No. 62.) Motion was made for adoption, when motion was made to lay on the table. Previous question was called and sustained, and Conference refused to lay on the table. They were then adopted.

Br. Clancy introduced the following amendment to the Discipline, which was adopted:—"Resolved, That the word 'Leaders,' in No. 7, on p. 62 of the Discipline, be struck out, and the word 'Teachers' substituted."

At an early period of the afternoon session, Conference determined, on motion of br. Varden, to adjourn at 3½ o'clock. Motion was here made to reconsider the vote, which the Conference refused to do.

At about 3 o'clock the minutes of the day were read and approved, when, on motion, the minutes as a whole were adopted.

At about 3½ o'clock, P.M., Conference adjourned, agreeably to its previous resolution, *sine die*. Closing religious services, consisting of singing, prayer, and the benediction, were conducted by br. Brown.

J. BURNS, *President*.

WILLIAM H. WILLS, *Secretary*.

APPENDIX.

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In this city it has created much excitement and discord;—some construe the language of the Discipline and Constitution of the Church to mean one thing, and some another,—there are various opinions on the subject. See page 18, Art. IV, sec. 3d, and page 71.

March 9th, 1853, I addressed a letter to the President of the Maryland Annual Conference, in session in Baltimore, on this subject. It was taken up by the Conference, referred to a committee, said committee reported, and the following resolution was adopted on Friday, March 11th: “*Resolved*, That, inasmuch as there is a difference of opinion entertained upon this subject, out of respect to the parties, we refer the subject to the action of the next General Conference.”

On Wednesday, March 16th, 5 days after, the Conference reconsidered said resolution, and adopted the following: “*Resolved*, That it is the judgment of this Conference, that when public notice from the pulpit has been given, a meeting of the qualified made members be assembled for the purpose of purchasing, &c., then the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members who attended such meeting, may, according to Constitution, page 18 and 71, purchase!” (See the printed minutes, 1853.)

After the rising of said Maryland Annual Conference, on the 28th day of March, 1853, I addressed a communication to the Methodist Protestant, which was published, calling for information on said subject, but I have not seen published any reply thereto in said paper. Whether any person has thought the subject of importance enough to give it his attention, or whether the communications have been lost on the Editor's table, is not for me to conjecture.

Now, brethren, I do most respectfully, affectionately, and earnestly desire, and believe, that the General Conference should take this important question up, and give it due and impartial consideration, and give an *opinion in full*, not for to purchase *only*, but to sell or dispose of the Church property in any way or manner whatever.

Let the decision be what it will, I, as an individual member, will be content.

Your brother in the Lord,

J. S. KENNEDY.

No. II. REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF MADISON COLLEGE.

To the President and Members of the General Conference of the M. P. Church.

The Trustees of Madison College beg leave, through the undersigned Committee, respectfully to submit the following Report.

At the last session of your body, held at Baltimore in the month of May, 1850, a series of resolutions were adopted, to the effect—

Br. Bassett introduced the following preamble and resolutions touching the death of Rev. Asa Shinn and others, (Appendix, No. 62.) Motion was made for adoption, when motion was made to lay on the table. Previous question was called and sustained, and Conference refused to lay on the table. They were then adopted.

Br. Clancy introduced the following amendment to the Discipline, which was adopted:—"Resolved, That the word 'Leaders,' in No. 7, on p. 62 of the Discipline, be struck out, and the word 'Teachers' substituted."

At an early period of the afternoon session, Conference determined, on motion of br. Varden, to adjourn at 3½ o'clock. Motion was here made to reconsider the vote, which the Conference refused to do.

At about 3 o'clock the minutes of the day were read and approved, when, on motion, the minutes as a whole were adopted.

At about 3½ o'clock, P.M., Conference adjourned, agreeably to its previous resolution, *sine die*. Closing religious services, consisting of singing, prayer, and the benediction, were conducted by br. Brown.

J. BURNS, *President*.

WILLIAM H. WILLS, *Secretary*.

and J. A. Simpson, of Ohio ; Rev. R. B. Thomson, D.D., Rev. P. T. Laishley, Rev. J. Paris, and F. H. Pierpont, Esq., of Virginia ; and Ross Wilkins, Esq., of Michigan.

At a meeting of the Board, held Feb. 28th, 1851, the President of that body (J. H. Deford, Esq.) was directed to correspond with the several Annual Conferences of the Methodist Protestant Church, with a view to the obtainment of students, and the opening of the College at an early day ; and also to secure, if possible, the services of some suitable person to act as presiding officer of the Institution. On the 27th of June, 1851, Rev. R. H. Ball, of Maryland, was elected President of the College, and Professor of Languages and Mathematics. He entered upon the duties of the office with an energy and devotion that gave every warrant of success. In a few months such was the increase in the number of students, (amounting to upwards of fifty,) that it became necessary to elect a full corps of Professors. Through their united and indefatigable exertions, the College enjoyed steadily increasing prosperity ; and the year closed with an augmented attendance, and every indication of healthful growth.

On the 7th of March, 1853, Rev. R. H. Ball resigned the presidency of the Institution, on account of ill health ; and Rev. George Brown, D.D., was appointed his successor, *pro tem*. He continued in the faithful and satisfactory discharge of the duties of the chair until the closing part of June, when Rev. Francis Waters, D.D., having been elected during the previous month, entered upon its occupancy.

The friends of the Institution flattered themselves in having secured the services of a gentleman of such extended reputation, and matured scholarship and experience ; and it was justly expected that, under his judicious management, Madison College would soon take rank with the first schools of learning in the land. This expectation was being rapidly realized, when, in the following October, Dr. Waters was compelled, through severe domestic affliction and other causes, to resign his position, and return to Maryland. Shortly after, Rev. S. K. Cox, of the same State, consented to accept the chair of Mental and Moral Science, and to act as President until the session of the General Conference.

We are happy to report that the present condition of the College is highly encouraging. Notwithstanding the apprehensions naturally awakened by frequent changes in the presidency of the Institution, yet thus far, no material injury has resulted. That Providence, under whose fostering care our infant enterprise has so signally prospered has at no time forsaken it to the mere uncertainty of creature dependence ; his own almighty wing has shielded it from impending danger, and the smile of his favor scattered the clouds with which its sky has occasionally been overspread.

The very gracious and extensive revival of religion with which the College was visited during the early part of the present year, has been of unspeakable benefit in various ways. Embracing among its subjects many of the more prominent students, it has exerted a moralizing influence upon the entire number. Their correct deportment and gentlemanly bearing are the occasion of universal remark among the citizens of Uniontown ; and with respect to decorum and good order, we may safely challenge any institution in the land.

One result of the revival deserves special attention, as showing the very important bearing of the College upon the vital interests of the Church. We allude to the fact that several promising young men, with the change wrought in their hearts by the Spirit of God, have also undergone a change in their views of life. Although they had previously intended entering upon other vocations, they have now resolved to devote themselves to the work of the Christian ministry. From no cause has our Church suffered more seriously than from the want of laborers. In all parts of her work has this need been deeply felt,—impeding her progress, and leaving unoccupied many fields “white for the harvest.” This difficulty, we think, will be in a great measure remedied by the successful maintenance of the College. It will contribute from time to time to our ministerial ranks many able young men, whose education need be no drawback to their piety, and will certainly not render them less fitted for the exposition and defence of Gospel truth.

The number of students now in attendance is larger than at any previous

1. That the Conference gratefully appreciate the generous tender of Madison College to the Methodist Protestant Church, by the Trustees of that Institution.

2. That, with a view to its acceptance, seven commissioners should be appointed,—one from the Pittsburg District, one from the Muskingum, one from the Virginia, one from the Maryland, one from the New York, one from the North Carolina District, and one from Uniontown, Pa., whose duty it should be to examine the property and location of the College, and report to the next session of the Pittsburg Conference whether they deemed it expedient to embrace the offer.

3. That, should the Commissioners report favorably, the Conference and Commissioners jointly should then proceed to select Trustees to take charge of the Institution, and make arrangements for the commencement of operations; and that said Trustees should be required to make annual reports to the Pittsburg Conference, and also to report in full to the General Conference at each succeeding session.

4. That, in the event of the final acceptance of Madison College, it must be expressly understood that no member of the General Conference should be held responsible in any manner whatever for any liabilities growing out of the action of the Conference in the establishment or maintenance of said College; but that the corporate body alone, to whom might be intrusted its more immediate management, should be accountable for all pecuniary obligations thereby contracted.

In accordance with these Resolutions, Rev. G. Brown of the Pittsburg District, Rev. William Collier of the Maryland, Rev. J. G. Whitfield of the Virginia, Rev. C. Springer of the Muskingum, Rev. J. J. Smith of the New York, Dr. John Arrington of the North Carolina District, with J. H. Deford, Esq. of Uniontown, Pa., were appointed Commissioners; a majority of whom having met, and reported favorably to the Pittsburg Conference, proceeded, in conjunction with a Committee appointed by that body, to select a Board of Trustees; whereupon the following gentlemen were selected:—

Rev. George Brown, Rev. Charles Avery, Rev. James Robinson, William Morrison, F. H. Pierpont, and Samuel Morrison, of the Pittsburg District; Rev. C. Springer, Thompson Hanna, and Pinkney Lewis, of the Muskingum District; Rev. Eli Henkle, Rev. E. Y. Reese, A. L. Withers, and George Vickers, Esq., of the Maryland District; Rev. R. B. Thomson, and Captain Harding, of the Virginia District; Rev. J. J. Smith of the New York District; Rev. T. F. Norris, of the Massachusetts District; P. S. Graves, of the Louisiana District; Rev. John Paris, of the North Carolina District; Edward Harrison, of the Alabama District; Joel Dalby and J. A. Simpson, of the Ohio District; Joel Rice, of the Illinois District; Hon. A. Stewart, Hon. R. P. Flenniken, J. B. Howell, Esq., J. H. Deford, Esq., Isaac Beeson, J. W. Phillips, T. J. Nesmith, J. L. Phillips, James Piper, and W. S. Barnes, of Uniontown, Pa.; Josiah Kurtz, John Cox, Horatio Griffith, J. T. Tarr, Samuel S. Cox, A. Gallantine, and Rev. James Hopwood, of Fayette Co., Pa. The joint action of the Commissioners and Committee was subsequently confirmed by the Pittsburg Conference.

By the resignation of a number of the members of the old Board, and the substitution of some of those newly selected in their stead, the Church obtained a majority in the Board, and thus the Institution passed into our hands, and was brought fully under our own control.

Some who had been nominated as Trustees declined serving; others have, since their nomination, died or resigned. The Board, as at present constituted, consists of Rev. George Brown, D.D., President, Hon. A. Stewart, Hon. R. P. Flenniken, J. H. Deford, Esq., Isaac Beeson, Horatio Griffith, John M. Austin, P. U. Hook, Jos. L. Phillips, Richard Beeson, H. H. Beeson, Thomas Brownfield, T. J. Nesmith, William S. Barnes, W. D. Barclay, D. Huston, Rev. H. Palmer, and J. Piper, Esq., of Uniontown, Pa.; Rev. J. Hopwood, A. Gallantine, Samuel S. Cox, Dr. S. Merchant, Josiah Kurtz, Hugh C. Ford, and J. Gallagher, of Fayette Co., Pa.; Rev. E. Y. Reese, D.D., Rev. E. Henkle, and A. L. Withers, of Maryland; Rev. J. Robinson and Rev. Charles Avery, of Pittsburg; Rev. William Collier, Thompson Hanna,

that your action in its favor may tend to the speedy consummation of the great and important end it has in view.

In conclusion, we cannot refrain from expressing our devout thanks to the Great Head of the Church, for the high degree of success with which he has blessed our College enterprise; and earnestly commend its claims and interests to your cordial support. We would respectfully solicit your active and individual efforts for the procurement of students and donations, and the rendering of any other assistance in your power. We have thought it proper to refer to your united counsel and judgment the nomination of a suitable person for the Presidency of the Institution, and we should also be indebted to you for the suggestion of some one to act as its general agent.

In behalf of the Board of Trustees,

Very respectfully yours,

GEO. BROWN,
R. P. FLENNIKEN,
SAMUEL K. COX.

No. III. RESOLUTIONS OF TRUSTEES OF MADISON COLLEGE.

UNIONTOWN, March 23d, 1854.

At a regular Monthly Meeting of the Trustees of Madison College, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

Resolved 1st.—That we commend the Madison College Endowment Society to the careful consideration of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, at its approaching session on the first Tuesday in May next, in Steubenville, Ohio, and respectfully request that body to adopt such measures in favor of the object of said Association as may be best calculated to accomplish the end we have in view.

Resolved 2d.—That we ask the hearty co-operation of all the Annual Conferences of the Methodist Protestant Church in the United States in this endowment enterprise, together with that of the ministers, members, and friends, in all the stations and circuits and missions of said Church.

Resolved 3d.—That, in the opinion of the Board of Trustees, the speedy endowment of Madison College is not only desirable, but essential to its permanence as an institution, and to enable it to take that position which a reasonable expectation would assign it, as the central or chief College of the Methodist Protestant Church.

That without it, every energy now so generously and faithfully employed in raising it to that point of dignity and usefulness must be paralyzed and enfeebled, and public expectation ultimately disappointed.

That with this endowment the Board of Trustees will be enabled to extend the blessings of a liberal education to all whose inclination and resources may incline to partake of it, as well as to many of the indigent who may wish to qualify themselves for usefulness.

A true copy of the minutes.

W. D. BARCLAY, *Secretary.*

No. IV. PETITION FROM STUDENTS OF MADISON COLLEGE.

UNIONTOWN, PA., April 28th, 1854.

To the Board of Trustees of Madison College.

GENTLEMEN,—We, the undersigned Students of Madison College, having understood that the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, to sit in Steubenville, Ohio, May 2d, is expected by your body to recommend a suitable person to be appointed by you to the permanent Presidency of said College; and being ourselves unfavorable to any more changes in the Presidency than strict necessity may call for; would most respectfully petition your Honorable Body to take such measures as you may deem *wise* and *prudent* to secure the services of Rev. S. K. Cox, who is at this time President *pro tem.* Since he has been at the head of this Institution, we have all been pleased with his amiable manners—his literary attainments—his Christian deportment—and

period, being near ninety ; and there is the promise of an encouraging increase at the opening of the new term, in September.

College Buildings, Location, &c.

The College property, when it came into our hands, was somewhat out of repair, and one portion of the building scarcely in a condition to be occupied. In January, 1853, a resolution passed the Board, authorizing measures to be taken for the erection of an addition to the College edifice, so as to make it capable of accommodating three hundred students. A plan was accordingly drawn, submitted to the Board, and by them approved ; and a building 53 by 44 feet, three stories high, erected at a cost of \$3,150—this amount to be paid in four equal installments ; one half by the citizens of Uniontown, and the other half by the Church. Two payments have already been made ; the third is now due, and the fourth will mature about the 1st of July. The new structure is commodious and well arranged ; comprising a chapel, two society halls, with library rooms attached, a large room for the preparatory department, and a Steward's dwelling, with six comfortable apartments. It is now near completion, and will be ready for occupancy before the close of the present session. The entire building will then be 80 by 44 feet, amply adapted to all collegiate purposes.

The eligibility of the location of the College can scarcely be called in question. Occupying a central position, nearly equi-distant from the several extremes of our country, it is thus admirably fitted to be the Institution of the whole Church, and, unfettered by sectional prejudices and interests, to serve as a bond of union between the various portions of our ecclesiastical confederacy ; while the salubrity of its situation, amid the mountains of Pennsylvania, and the high-toned moral character of the community in which it is located, furnish every safeguard that could be desired with respect to the health and morals of those committed to its tutelage. While Uniontown ranks considerably above a mere country village, and is capable of affording the amplest accommodation to any number of students ; it is free, on the other hand, from the temptations and vices of large cities ; and the intelligence, refinement, and sociability of its citizens, cannot fail to render a sojourn among them at once agreeable and improving.

Endowment.

The Board, convinced of the absolute necessity of an endowment, in order to the permanent prosperity of the College, made early and active efforts for the accomplishment of this end. Agents were employed for the purpose of procuring donations and effecting the sale of scholarships, and were quite successful. One hundred and seventeen limited scholarships have been sold at \$100 each, amounting to \$11,700 ; and eight perpetual scholarships, for \$500 each, amounting to \$4,000. In addition, upwards of \$1,200 have been contributed in the form of donations. We may also mention that there is in Brownsville Bank \$1,000, yielding an annuity for the support of the College ; and in June, 1853, Mrs. Tamsey A. Reese, of Maryland, generously placed in the hands of Rev. E. Y. Reese, D.D., as Trustee, \$2,000, subject to certain conditions, the revenue of which will annually go to the support of the Institution. For full particulars as to the receipts and expenditures of the College, and its present financial condition, we refer you to the accompanying report of the Treasurer.

A few months since, the attention of the Board was directed to a new scheme for the endowment of the College suggested by Mr. James Snyder, of Illinois. Its popular and practical features at once commended it to their approval, and measures were immediately adopted to give it form and efficacy. A constitution was prepared, and society formed, on the basis of the proposed plan, and in a few weeks \$702 dollars contributed in Uniontown to its objects ; since then, subscriptions have been received from Pittsburg to the amount of \$220, making in all \$922.

We deem it unnecessary here to dwell on the details and advantages of this plan, since they have so recently been brought before the Church through the columns of the Protestant, and will be ably advocated before your body by representatives from the Society. A series of resolutions have been adopted by the Board, commending it to your favorable consideration, with the hope

view of the setting off of a new District, which was accordingly done. And by the mutual consent of the Presidents of the Missouri and Arkansas Conferences, and without any opposition in the Missouri Conference, all the territory north east of the Missouri River was set off into a new Conference District, called Platt District. It is bounded on the East by the Mississippi River, on the North by the Iowa line, on the West and South-west by the Missouri River. This District embraces a vast territory of the most fertile soil in the world, and many cities of considerable magnitude have sprung up on the large rivers, and much wealth already abounds in the country, sufficient to support a hundred ministers, provided we had the right men to build up our cause. You will hear, however, from our delegate to the General Conference that at the time of the setting off of the Platt District, all the Missions and Circuits did not report, but in the opinion of the ministers and delegates present in the Missouri Conference more than five hundred members resided in the bounds thus set off, and as far as known to your Committee, the brethren, generally, were well satisfied with the action of the Conference on the subject. Our Conference is now in its third year of existence, and is multiplying both in numbers and credit; six or eight additional itinerants joined at the last A. Conference. We, the Ministers of said Conference, in behalf of our brethren in the bounds of the Platt District, do, therefore, pray and request that the General Conference receive us as another link in the chain of our confederacy.

Respectfully submitted,

REDDICK HORN, } Committee.
JAMES M. SUTTON, }

No. VI. PETITION FROM PLATT DISTRICT.*

The undersigned were appointed a Committee on the part of Des Moines Mission, Methodist Protestant Church, composed in part of Clark and Scotland counties, in the State of Missouri, and a portion of Van Buren county, in the State of Iowa, to present their true condition to the consideration of the General Conference, to sit in Steubenville Ohio, May 3d, 1854, and to petition the Conference to take such action as the Conference may deem most advisable under all the circumstances hereinafter stated.

We, your petitioners respectfully represent that, some years past, we found ourselves, under the force of circumstances, compelled to seek a home in the far west. But amidst many privations, none to us was so great as to be deprived of the communion of the Church of our choice. We made many urgent appeals to our ministerial brethren for spiritual food, but without success, or indeed any favorable result, until our beloved brother, John Huntsman, like ourselves in pursuit of a home, came among us and organized us into a church under the discipline of the Methodist Protestant Church. Driven as we were to take care of ourselves, we made a temporary association with the Iowa Conference, in fond hope that this Conference might be able to do something for us. For three years did Mr. Huntsman labor for us, without any other assistance than what little local aid was immediately within our association. His labors were blessed, and, all things considered, we did well and got a favorable hold upon the public mind. But it became very evident to us that unless we could bring more ministerial labor to our assistance, we could not hope to advance our cause to ultimate success. At this juncture of time, we looked to our association with the Iowa Conference, to give us the much needed assistance; but owing to the small number of laborers which she was enabled to command and to the great demand for ministerial assistance throughout every part of her work, it became evident to us that she could not give us the necessary ministerial assistance which our circumstances so urgently demanded. As the larger portion of the territory composing our mission was within the boundary of the Missouri District, we made a very urgent appeal to

* Submitted by the membership of Des Moines Mission, composed in part of Clark and Scotland counties, in the State of Missouri, and a portion of Van Buren county, in the State of Iowa, through their committee, appointed to petition the General Conference on their behalf.

the very fine ability with which he has governed the College; and it is our most ardent wish to have him recommended by the General Conference, and appointed by you permanent President of Madison College—and that this expression of our sentiments and wishes may be communicated by you to said General Conference.

R. S. Thomas,
J. D. Pretlow,
R. E. Waddill,
Dick H. Austin,
William Y. Jeffery,
James M. Stoner,
Douglass M. Bailey,
Henry C. Mackrell,
Leonard A. Slater,
H. C. Dawson,
W. W. Dugger,
R. K. Iglehart,
George W. King,
Edme J. Hunter,
George B. F. Hodgson,
William W. Reese,
John A. Cassell,
John R. Clark,
Clark Hughes,
William H. Miller,

R. H. Clowe,
J. R. W. Atkins,
T. M. Smith,
A. S. E. Patrick,
George W. Huston,
Robert Wade,
Robert Flenniken,
Edward Campbell,
H. B. Flenniken,
A. Stewart, Junr,
Reuben H. Dugger,
John N. Laws,
Willard T. Drake,
C. C. Phillips,
Charles H. Cook,
John, W. Deford,
D. P. Newsom,
John W. Miller,
John W. Light,
T. K. Dashiell,
J. Jett,

T. S. Summerville,
Richard Dorsey,
Joseph M. Doss,
William Stewart,
S. J. Ridgley,
George J. Brown,
W. F. Gray,
J. Owens Berry,
John Ingraham,
J. W. Huskins,
H. Deford,
H. F. Campbell,
J. E. Kelly,
Richard Cowhen,
J. K. Wayland,
T. H. Hopwood,
M. J. Luddington,
E. W. Stephens,
G. M. Coulter,
Samuel Huston.

UNIONTOWN, April 27th, 1854.

Trustees of Madison College met, and, on motion, Resolved—That the President of the Board of Trustees be instructed to present the Memorial of the Students of Madison College, this day submitted to them, to the General Conference, with the assurance, on the part of the Trustees, that it would afford them pleasure to elect the said Rev. Samuel K. Cox, whose administration of the College they highly approve, to the permanent Presidency of said Institution, should that body choose to recommend said election.

A true copy of the minutes.

W. D. BARCLAY, *Secretary*.

No. V. COMMUNICATION OF COMMITTEE FROM PLATT DIST.

To the Members of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church.

We, the undersigned, Ministers, of said Church, beg leave to represent that at the eighth session of the Mo. Annual Conference, held on the third day of October, 1851, we were appointed by said Conference a Committee to address the next General Conference and set forth the facts, and assign the reasons, for the setting off of a new A. Conference District, and pray said General Conference to sanction and ratify the acts and doings of said A. Conference in this matter. Pursuant of the duties assigned to your committee, we would respectfully report that the original Missouri District embraced the entire State of Missouri in length, from the Iowa line to the southern extremity of the State, a distance of upwards of one thousand miles, and in width not less than five hundred miles. Many of the Churches and Societies formed in those bounds, were near the northern boundary of the State, and the distance and inconveniences of travel were such, up to the time of the setting off of what is called the Platt District, that not even the president of the A. Conference had ever visited the churches or brethren north of the Missouri River. And indeed, so great is the distance that the A. Conferences held in what is now the Platt District, have seldom been largely represented, a thing much to be regretted. These, together with kindred difficulties that might be enumerated, induced the brethren north of the Missouri River, to request the Conference to take the necessary steps in accordance with our Disciplinary Regulations, in

matter to be cared for by those who may come to feel their great need, and in sorrow behold the great advance which other churches have made beyond the Methodist Protestant Church, whose systems are not near her equal in value. We are on the spot, and we can judge by what we see around us. Every other church is taking positions that are freely open to the Methodist Protestant Church, but she has no means, or has not the means adequate to take possession of what is so easily within her reach, could she command such instrumentalities as her noble institutions so richly deserve, and so urgently demand. It is no longer a matter of doubt. The world will have an efficient ministry of the glorious gospel of the Son of God. If we do not furnish our portion of it according to our opportunity and the demands that may be made upon us as a Christian people, some other church will. Another people will take our place, and we will struggle in vain hereafter, to attain favorable positions, such as are now freely within our reach, but the world will not wait our time, we must meet them in the hour of their pressing need. In conclusion, upon this point of our subject, we may say that the door seems to be fully open before us, for there is not one known obstacle to our success, growing out of the genius of our institutions as a church. We can take our place beside our sister churches, if we deem it worth our effort, but we must send our cause properly represented to the world, or they will not judge us by our principles, but by the character of those whom we send forth to present our claims to public favor. It behooves us to take such action as the merits of our cause and the value of our principles demand, and to make such efforts as in our judgment we must be convinced are necessary to secure our success as a church. Wherever we permit our cause to be presented, or our principles to be held forth, it should be with confidence that they will be properly maintained, for if we fail in this, a discriminating public will ever argue that we have not the elements of success or permanency, whatever else we may have.

In view of the above stated facts, we respectfully petition the General Conference, to place Des Moine Mission, together with that portion of the State of Missouri lying north of the Missouri river and east of the Cherriton river, under the control and direction of the Board of Missions, for the following reasons: First, that the Board may assist us to obtain ministerial labor, commensurate with our present wants. Second, that the board, may take such measures as will secure the employment of such ministerial labor, in addition to what is now so pressingly needed, as will extend the Methodist Protestant Church, throughout this vast and beautiful territory, expressed within the above bounds, in which there is no organized Methodist Protestant Church, except the societies composing Des Moine Mission. We have appointed one of our number, our beloved br. Erastus Hoskins, to attend the session of the General Conference, to make such additional representations, as may be deemed useful to us and necessary to enable the General Conference, to form a just conception of our wants, and to take such measures, as will insure the success of the Methodist Protestant Church, in this portion of the Great West. Should the General Conference, deem some other plan more advisable to accomplish the object so very near and dear to our hearts, we do humbly hope that they in their wisdom will authorize it, and we will carry it out, so far as we have the power. Respectfully submitted by your petitioners.

JESSE SISSON,
ERASTUS HOSKINS,
JOSEPH MILLER,

M. P. REESON,
A. PARRISH,

A. MAXWELL,
JOHN SEXSMITH.

NO. VII. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES.

The Committee on Boundaries having had under consideration the petition from the Platt District for recognition as a Conference District, beg leave to report that we recommend said District be received as a Conference, believing that the necessary arrangements were made for setting off according to Discipline, and that, from evidence before us, we believe there was a constitutional number of members, as required by the law of the Church. We recommend,

the President of the Missouri Conference to give us the ministerial assistance which we so much needed. He promised to do for us all that was in his power. He sent a brother to labor among us as a missionary, but the brother never came to our assistance. About this time, the Rev. John Sexsmith, a ministerial member of the Pittsburg Conference, came to our section of the West upon a visit. We, believing it to be providential, proposed to him to remain and labor with us, which he consented to do, upon the advice of his Conference being in favor of such a course on his part. We then presented our necessitous condition to our brethren of the Pittsburg Conference, and asked them to grant us the labors of our beloved brother John Sexsmith. The Pittsburg Conference very kindly responded to our petition by granting us the labors of our brother John Sexsmith for three years. Thus supplied with the labors of brothers Huntsman and Sexsmith, we commenced our efforts anew with redoubled energy and zeal. The great Head of the Church has not disappointed us; we have been richly repaid for all our struggles and sacrifices, with an increase of worthy members to our little band, a commanding influence upon the public mind, and, we humbly trust, with an increase of scriptural holiness among our members. Within this period of time the Missouri Conference divided and set off a new Conference District, to be called the Platt District. Our territory in part, falls within the bounds of this new District. We could fondly wish that the circumstances were of such a character, as to enable us to look to this proposed Conference to sustain us and give us the necessary ministerial labor, to enable us to succeed; but we find the facts far otherwise. We are compelled to confess that this organization is without the necessary disciplinary requisitions to justify it, and without the strength necessary to secure its success. It was altogether premature, and should not have been undertaken. It was wholly without our advice or consent and against our judgment of propriety.

Thus we have given, or presented to you, our rise and our present condition, but we feel that we have not discharged our entire duty until we have pointed you to a consideration of some of our relations in the future. This section of the Great West is of vast and vital importance to the Methodist Protestant Church. First, it is capable of sustaining a powerful population. It has all the natural resources to make it a great and powerful portion of our Union. Second, it is now rapidly filling up with an interesting population, who are pouring into it in increasing numbers, with every season's regular immigration, and among this teeming flood of active life, there is a large number of the membership of the Methodist Protestant Church who are left without the church of their choice, for we have not an efficient itinerant ministry to see after them, or to care for them; they are left to sink back again into the world, or to find a home in some other church, more careful of their spiritual wants than we appear to be. Should this sad state of affairs continue from year to year, we will lose as many of our members by removals to the West, as we are gaining in the East. It is a fact, beyond all doubt, that we have already lost a very large portion of our membership who have immigrated to the West, nor has the fault been entirely owing to the neglect of those who come West. There are not more than two itinerant ministers within the bounds of the territory which we propose to place under the direction of the Board of Missions, and at no very distant day there might be within the same territory, sufficient strength to justify a Conference District, if it should be properly cared for. Almost every evangelical church in the Union is making strong exertions to meet their immigrating population, or membership, with their church privileges. But we are leaving ours to take care of themselves, or to be taken care of by other churches more politic of their interests. There is still another view of this subject beyond the one already presented. The Great West is, most unquestionably, to be the home of very many of the children of those now inhabiting our Eastern and Middle States. Among them are the children of Methodist Protestants, who have enjoyed the blessings of our communion from their infancy. Shall they be left to come to the West, and find that the parents of the Methodist Episcopal, Presbyterian, Baptist, and almost all others, have had the forethought to lay the foundations of their church politics deep and broad in the Great West, while Methodist Protestants have left this whole

cause with apostolic zeal; but in the midst of successful effort, he was summoned away from the scene of his toil, to his rest and reward in heaven.

Rev. J. W. Rutlege, of the Pennsylvania Conference, was appointed agent in the place of our lamented br. Stier, and has every efficiently, satisfactorily, and successfully filled his agency, until recently, when, at his own request, he was temporarily released from the service of the Board.

The Board at an early period determined to undertake, and if possible, accomplish something in promotion of the missionary cause. And as there had been repeated calls from Oregon for ministerial aid from our church, and as the Board felt a great anxiety to establish the Methodist Protestant Church in that distant region, it was unanimously resolved to establish a mission there. Rev. Daniel Bagley, of the North Illinois Annual Conference, was unanimously elected missionary to that field. The Board subsequently had an interview with him, at which time every thing relating to his departure, "out-fit," salary, &c., was satisfactorily arranged.

In the Spring of 1852, br. Bagley started for the Oregon Mission, by the overland route, and through divine mercy reached the field of his labors in the autumn of the same year. God has abundantly blessed his labors, and opened up his way to extensive usefulness. By consent of the Board, the brethren in Oregon, believing that the interests of the mission required it, organized a Missionary Annual Conference in February last. From the Minutes of that Conference, it appears that there are now *five* ministers, *two* preachers, *one* exhorter, and *one hundred and twenty* members connected with the mission. Several lots have been secured in desirable locations, for church purposes. One house of worship has been completed, and several others are in course of erection. It is the desire of the mission that its present connection with the Board should be continued.

In 1851, it was resolved to establish a mission in China, and Rev. David Wilson, of the Maryland Annual Conference, was designated as missionary to that field. After some considerable time, he accepted the appointment, and the necessary preliminary steps were taken by the Board to prepare for his departure. But after a long delay, as will appear by reference to the correspondence with him on the subject, the Board became fully convinced that it could not rely upon him for that field, and released him from its service. Efforts have since been made by the Board to secure some other suitable person for that mission, but they have to the present been unsuccessful. The money for the establishment of a mission in China, as will appear from the Treasurer's Report, is still on hand, the Board not feeling at liberty to apply it to any other purpose, a great portion of it having been contributed expressly for that object.

Other fields of labor have occupied the attention of the Board, such as California, New Mexico, Minisota, and Africa; but as yet nothing has been effected in reference to any of these fields.

In 1852, the Board, believing that something of the kind was absolutely necessary to promote the interests of our missionary enterprise, resolved to publish a monthly Journal, to be called the "Missionary and Sunday School Journal." Its publication was accordingly commenced, and has been continued to the present time. It has more than met expenses, and it is believed that, by proper effort, its circulation may be greatly extended. The Board would present its claims to your serious consideration.

For the better regulation of its affairs, and its more efficient and successful operation, the Board was induced to apply to the Court of Common Pleas of Alleghany County, Pennsylvania, for a Charter, or Act of Incorporation. Its application was successful, and a Charter was granted by the Court March 2d, 1852. It is unnecessary to give in detail the reasons which influenced the Board to this course. It may be sufficient to state that, without being incorporated, the Board could not lawfully realize the benefit of any bequests which benevolent and pious individuals might desire to place at its disposal for the promotion of missionary interests. The Charter, and the by-laws adopted under it, were so framed as perfectly to harmonize with the laws of the Church and the powers of the General Conference to control the Board. A copy of the charter and by-laws is herewith submitted to your consideration.

however, that the boundaries of the Platt Conference shall be as follows: on the East, by the Chariton River; S. West, by the Missouri River; and on the North, by the Iowa Line. Bro. REDDICK HORN, one of our Committee, dissenting.

P. T. LAISHLEY,
F. SCOTT,
J. M. FLOOD,
Jos. ASHTON,
CALVIN JOHNSON.

No. VIII. REPORT OF JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

The Judiciary Committee beg leave to report as follows, viz:

1. That all the article in the Book of Discipline, entitled "Means of Grace," be stricken out, except that part in which the means of grace are stated.

2. That, at the end of paragraph 2d, page 57, insert:

"This provision shall likewise apply to Ministers and Preachers."

3. That, at the end of paragraph 7th, page 38, insert:

"In all cases of Church Trials an appeal may be taken from any decision of the presiding officer, to the Committee or the Society before whom the trial is had, by the prosecutor or the defendant.

GEORGE BROWN,
JOHN S. REESE,
JOSEPH I. AMOS,
J. M. HAYES,
J. S. ROBINSON.

No. IX. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

To the members of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church.

Dear Brethren,—As soon as practicable after the rise of the last General Conference, the brethren appointed by that body to constitute the BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS of the Methodist Protestant Church, met for the purpose of organizing. The following members were present:—

Ministers—William Collier, George Brown, John Cowl, John Scott.

Laymen—William Miller, William J. Troth, J. W. Phillips.

Absent—John McCaskey, J. L. Sands, Thompson Hannah, M. M. Laughlin, Charles Avery.

The Board temporarily organized by calling Rev. W. Collier to the Chair. On motion, Rev. James Robinson was elected to serve in place of Rev. C. Avery, resigned.

The Board then went into the election of permanent officers, whereupon Rev. Wm. Collier was elected President, Rev. John Cowl, Vice-President, Rev. James Robinson, Recording Secretary, Wm. J. Troth, Esq., Treasurer, and Rev. John Scott, Corresponding Secretary.

Since that time, M. M. Laughlin, Thompson Hanna, and J. W. Phillips, have resigned, and Rev. J. Cowl has removed. Their places in the Board have been filled by James Rynd, Dr. William Henderson, John H. Garrand, and Rev. John Clark.

The Board has annually held an election for officers, and the following brethren constitute the officers of the Board at present:—

Rev. J. CLARK, *President.*

JOHN MCCASKEY, Esq., *Vice-Pres.*

Rev. JAMES ROBINSON, *Rec. Sec.*

W. J. TROTH, Esq., *Treasurer.*

Rev. JOHN SCOTT, *Corresponding Sec.*

The Board, after its permanent organization, to carry out the object of its appointment, elected Rev. F. Stier, of the Maryland Annual Conference, its agent, to travel and preach and take up collections and subscriptions for the purpose of raising money to send missionaries to foreign fields. Br. Stier was truly devoted to the work—traveling and preaching in behalf of the missionary

Politic, and further direct that said Charter of Incorporation be recorded in the office for the recording of Deeds in Alleghany County.

Alleghany County, Ls.

I, George S. Hays, Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas, do hereby certify that the foregoing contains the docket entries, and order and decree of said Court of Common Pleas in the foregoing cases as stated.

April 2d, 1852.

GEO. S. HAYS, Prothonotary.

Alleghany County, Ls.

Recorded in the Recorder's office for said County in Deed-Book, vol. 100, p. 517. Given under my hand and seal of office this 2d day of April, A.D. 1852.

No. 168. March 7, 1852.

S. FAHNISTOCK, Recorder.

Filed February 25, 1852.

BY-LAWS OF THE BOARD, &c.

I.—OBJECTS OF THE BOARD.

The objects of the Board shall be the propagation of the Gospel in foreign lands, and in unoccupied portions of the United States.

II.—MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.

1. *Corporate Members*.—The corporate members of the Board shall be elected every four years by the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church at its regular sessions, and shall have the right of voting in all cases. All vacancies occurring in the Board, by death, resignation, or ceasing to be a minister or member of the Methodist Protestant Church, or removing to too great a distance to admit of convenient attendance on the stated meetings of the Board, shall be filled up within three months after such vacancy or vacancies shall have occurred, by a majority of the remaining members, subject, however, to the approval of the Pittsburg Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church.

2. *Corresponding Members*.—The Board may elect by ballot clergymen and laymen, residing in distant parts of the United States and in foreign lands, Corresponding Members; who, though it be no part of their official duty to attend its meetings or take part in its votes or resolutions, yet when occasionally present may assist in its deliberations, and by communicating information, and in other ways, enlighten its course, facilitate its operations, and promote its objects.

3. *Honorary Members*.—Clergymen, on paying \$25, and other persons of good moral character, on paying \$50 at any one time into the Treasury, shall be entitled to the privilege of attending the meetings of the Board, and assisting in its deliberations as Honorary Members; it being understood, however, that the right of voting is restricted to corporate members.

4. *Certificates of Membership*.—The certificates of membership for corporate members shall be signed by the President and Recording Secretary of the Board; for corresponding members, by the Corresponding Secretary; and for honorary members, by the Treasurer.

III.—ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The Board shall elect by ballot at each of its annual meetings a President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall remain in office until others are appointed.

IV.—DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS OF THE BOARD.

1. *President and Vice-President*.—It shall be the duty of the President, and in his absence, of the Vice-President, to preside at each meeting of the Board, to preserve order, keep the speaker to the point under consideration, and appoint Committees not otherwise provided for. He shall not take part in debate, nor propose any new measure, unless he first leave the chair. In case of an equal division on any question, he shall give the casting vote, and may assign his reasons. He shall also perform such other official acts, either during the session of the Board or at any other time, as shall be assigned him by any

CHARTER.

The undersigned citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and of the United States of America, residing in the county of Alleghany, are associated under the laws of this Commonwealth, and herein specify their objects, articles, conditions, and name or style under which they are associated, namely:

Art. I.—Their name and style, and the name and style of their successors and associates, from time to time appointed according to the usages of the Methodist Protestant Church, shall be The Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Protestant Church.

Art. II.—The objects of the Board are the propagation of the Gospel in foreign lands, and in such unoccupied territory of the United States as they may deem fit.

Art. III.—The Board shall have the right to a common seal, composed of such device or devices as may be agreed upon by them.

Art. IV.—The Board shall have the right to hold and enjoy real and personal estate, in such amounts and for such purposes as are in accordance to law.

Art. V.—The officers of the Board shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer.

Art. VI.—The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board, shall sign all orders on the Treasurer under the direction of the Board, and in the interim of the regular meetings shall call special meetings, whenever solicited so to do by two members.

Art. VII.—It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to perform the duties of the President in his absence.

Art. VIII.—It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary to attend all the meetings of the Board; to take down minutes of the proceedings; to record them in a book kept for that purpose; to sign all orders on the Treasurer; seal, and take charge of said seal, and keep it in some safe and convenient place.

Art. IX.—It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to give information of the plans and proceedings of the Board, when application is made by proper persons desiring and needing it.

Art. X.—It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to take charge of all moneys, goods and chattels, rights and credits of the Board, and to pay out the same whenever an order, signed by the President and Secretary, shall be presented. He shall also give to the Board a bond or bonds from time to time in such amounts as the Board shall determine.

Art. XI.—The Board shall have power to make by-laws, rules, and regulations upon all subjects connected with its well-being and government, and the proper ordering of its affairs, as fully and specially, and to all intents and purposes, as if they were herein set forth at large; *Provided* that the by-laws, rules, and regulations, be not inconsistent with the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and these rules of incorporation. (Signed)

JOHN COWL,
WM. J. TROTH,
JOHN SCOTT,

WILLIAM HENDERSON,
JOHN L. SANDS,
WILLIAM MILLER,

JAMES ROBISON,
WILLIAM COLLIER,
JOHN McCASKEY.

In the Court of Common Pleas of Alleghany County.
Alleghany County, Sct.

And now, to wit, February 21st, 1852. The within articles of association, of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Protestant Church, presented in open Court, and the Court having read and considered the same, and finding nothing therein contrary to the Constitution of the United States and of this State, order that the same be filed in the office of the Prothonotary, and that notice be given according to the Act of Assembly.—By the Court.

And now, March 2d, 1852. It appearing to the Court that the notice ordered by the Court has been given, and no sufficient reason being shown to the contrary; the Court order and decree, and declare that the persons so associated in the said articles, exhibited according to the articles and conditions in said instrument set forth and contained, become and be a Corporation or Body

VII.—RULES FOR THE TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS.

1. A motion being made and seconded, and stated from the chair, shall be considered in possession of the Board, but may be withdrawn by the mover before any order is taken on it; and every motion shall be reduced to writing, if the presiding officer, or any other member require it.
2. A motion to amend shall be considered first in order, and shall be decided before the original one.
3. Every member wishing to speak shall rise and address the chair, and no member shall speak more than once on one question, until every member desiring to speak shall have spoken; and no member shall speak more than fifteen minutes, without permission of the Board.
4. A motion to lay on the table shall be taken without debate.
5. When a report is presented by a committee, it shall be considered in possession of the Board, and may be adopted, amended, recommitted, laid on the table or indefinitely postponed, as the Board may deem proper.
6. It shall always be deemed out of order to use personal reflections in debate, or to interrupt a speaker, except to explain or call him to order.
7. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order, except when a speaker has the floor, and shall be taken without debate.

VIII.—QUALIFICATIONS OF MISSIONARIES.

The Board will not employ any person as a missionary who does not present evidence—

1. Of decided, enlightened, and uniform piety; correct and comprehensive views of the great doctrines and duties of Christianity; strong love to Christ and the souls of men; and consistent habits in his daily conversation and intercourse with his Christian brethren and the world.
2. Of a full conviction of the duty of going in person to the heathen and destitute, with a strong love for the work of missions, that he may be fitted to encounter the exposures, hardships, and discouragements incident to missionary life.
3. Of good common sense, sound judgment, quick discernment, and good knowledge of human character.
4. Of industry, economy, and the habit of attending faithfully, punctually, and thoroughly, to whatever business he undertakes.
5. Of good natural disposition, including kindness, gentleness, forbearance, and a desire to accommodate others.
6. Of respectable literary and theological attainments.
7. Of good bodily health.
8. The Board shall not appoint any person a missionary who is not a member of the Methodist Protestant Church.

IX.—DUTIES OF MISSIONARIES.

1. Every missionary employed by the Board shall be required to devote himself exclusively to his missionary work.
2. Every missionary of the Board shall be required, so far as practicable, to keep a diary and transmit the same to the Board at least once a quarter; and also furnish the Board with an annual report, so as to be received by the Corresponding Secretary by the first of September, stating the number of societies formed during the year, the number of members in the mission; the number of Sabbath Schools organized, together with the number of scholars, teachers, &c.; the amount he has collected from his mission towards defraying his expenses; together with any other information which may be of interest connected with his mission.
3. When any missionary shall desire, on account of ill health, or any other cause, to return from his missionary field, he is required first to obtain permission from the Board; but if this be impracticable, he is required to obtain the consent of his mission, which consent, however, shall be subject to the revision of the Board. The expenses of sick or disabled missionaries, their widows or orphans in returning to this country with the consent of the Board, shall be paid by the Board, and charged to the mission from which they shall have returned.

by-law or vote of the Board. In the absence of both the President and Vice-President, the meeting shall be called to order by the oldest member present, after which a presiding officer shall be chosen for the occasion.

2. *Recording Secretary.*—The Recording Secretary shall keep correct minutes of the proceedings of the Board, certify all accounts which have been passed by the Board and ordered for payment; notify the members of the meetings of the Board, and perform such other duties as may from time to time be assigned him.

3. *Corresponding Secretary.*—The Corresponding Secretary shall act as the organ of the Board in conducting its written correspondence, both foreign and domestic, excepting what relates immediately to the Treasurer's department; and he shall prepare and edit its official publications, and perform such other duties as the Board shall particularly direct. He shall answer communications addressed to the Board through the public prints or otherwise, involving matters of fact connected with its operations; but neither he nor any other member of the Board shall answer any communication controverting the propriety of its action, without obtaining the approbation and sanction of the Board.

4. *The Treasurer.*—The Treasurer shall take charge of all the moneys paid into the Treasury of the Board, and all notes, bonds, deeds, and other evidences of property; keep fair and accurate accounts of all moneys received and expended; make out annually a statement of receipts and payments, and of the condition of the Treasury; exhibit his books, accounts, vouchers, and evidences of property, whenever required, to the Board; conduct the correspondence relating immediately to his department, and perform such other acts as are necessary to the faithful execution of the duties of his office.

5. *Agents.*—The Board may appoint agents, who shall be ministers of the Methodist Protestant Church, to travel extensively throughout the United States and its territories, to preach the Gospel, take up collections, and in every suitable way aid the Board in carrying its objects into effect. It shall be the duty of said agents to keep fair accounts of all moneys collected by them, and after deducting their own compensation and expenses therefrom, to pay over the balance at least every six months, or oftener if required, to the Treasurer of the Board. The said agents when present shall be entitled to the privileges of honorary members.

V.—MEETINGS OF THE BOARD.

1. *Monthly Meetings.*—The regular monthly meetings of the Board shall be held on the second Tuesday of every month, commencing at 10 o'clock, A. M.

2. *Annual Meetings.*—The annual meetings of the Board shall commence on the fourth Tuesday of October, at 2 o'clock, P. M., and the annual sermon before the Board shall be preached on the evening of the same day.

3. *Quorum.*—A majority of all the corporate members shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular meeting of the Board.

4. *Religious Exercises.*—All meetings of the Board shall be opened with reading a portion of Scripture, singing and prayer, and closed with prayer or the benediction.

5. *Committees.*—Committees may be selected from each of the three classes of members.

6. *Annual Sermon.*—There shall be an annual sermon preached before the Board by a person appointed at a previous meeting. A second person shall be appointed to preach in case of his failure.

7. *Leave of Absence.*—No member who shall be present at any meeting of the Board shall consider himself at liberty to leave without the permission of the Board.

VI.—ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. The minutes of the previous meeting shall be read, and, when approved, signed by the presiding officer.

2. The Corresponding Secretary shall present his report.

3. Report of the Treasurer.

4. Reports of Committees.

5. Unfinished business.

6. Miscellaneous matters may then be introduced and disposed of.

1851.

TREASURER'S REPORT—CONTINUED.

DR.

Sept. 5.	From Pittsburg Annual Conference Missionary collection at Morgantown, Va.....	\$107 55	
"	Jefferson Ct., Pitts Dist per Rev. J. M. Mason,	2 83	
"	John Scott, Pittsburg, Pa.....	5 00	
"	Dr. W. Henderson, do.....	5 00	
"	Mrs. E. Stoner, col'd do.....	3 00	
"	Rufus E. Shaply, Carlisle, do. per Rev. W. Collier,.....	5 00	
"	Friend to Missions, Frederick, Md. per Rev. W. Collier,.....	5 00	
"	Wabash Conference Missionary Society, per J. C. Wright, Treasurer,.....	10 00	
"	Nathan S. Smith, Clarksburg Mission, Ohio Dist. per Rev. A. H. Bassett,.....	5 00	
		—	433 88
Dec. 15.	Rev. E. Y. Reese, collected,.....		255 75
"	Alexander B. Moon, Tenn. (Oregon preferred,)	5 00	
"	North Illinois Annual Conference,.....	14 60	
1852.			
Jan. 23.	John M. Permar, Pittsburg, Pa.....	5 00	
"	W. H. Garrad, Pittsburg, Pa.....	5 00	
"	Mrs. Walters, do.....	1 00	
24	Solomon Stoner, do.....	5 00	
"	Mrs. E. Stoner, do.....	1 00	
"	Miss C. Stoner, do.....	1 00	
26	Robt. M. Marshall, do.....	5 00	
"	John Atwell, do.....	5 00	
"	Charles Craig, do.....	2 00	
"	Mr. Cragg, do.....	3 00	
"	Wm. Rinehart, do.....	5 00	
"	Jno. L. Sands, do.....	5 00	
"	Mrs. E. Sands, do.....	5 00	
"	Mrs. D. Armstrong, do.....	2 00	
		—	69 60
"	John Armstrong, do.....	5 00	
"	Mrs. Violet, do.....	5 00	
"	Mrs. Ann Simmons, do.....	1 00	
"	Mrs. M. J. Woodwell, do.....	1 00	
"	Mrs. Rowley, do.....	25	
28	Mrs. Rebecca Kyle, do.....	5 00	
"	Miss Cunningham, do.....	1 00	
29	John Mecaskey, do.....	2 00	
31	Mrs Juliet English, do.....	3 00	
"	George Howarth, do.....	5 00	
"	Wm. Bamhill, do.....	5 00	
"	John Magon Esq., do.....	5 00	
"	Mrs. E. Dravo, do.....	1 00	
"	Mrs. Gillespie, do.....	1 00	
Feb. 6.	E. Gilbert, Treasurer, Bal. of subscription obtained by Bro. Stier, Wilton, Connecticut, (China preferred,).....	111 00	
"	Charles W. Button Harper's Ferry, Va.....	3 00	
"	James Munden, Alleghany city, Pa.....	2 00	
"	Rev. D. D. Hughes, Fayette Spring ct., Pitts. District,.....	2 50	
"	Maryland Annual Conf. Missionary collection Harper's Ferry, Va., W. Starr, Treas....	90 87	
20	Rev. E. Y. Reese, Baltimore, Md, collection,	121 50	
		—	270 12

4. When any missionary has violated the instructions given him, whether before or after entering the field of his missionary labors, or has failed to perform any duty reasonably assigned him, he may, if it be deemed expedient, be dismissed from the service of the Board.

X.—PUBLICATIONS.

The Board may issue such publications from time to time as shall be deemed necessary to facilitate its objects, and promote the interests of the missionary cause.

XI.—LIBRARY.

The Board may take such steps as shall be deemed prudent towards the collection of a missionary Library, by procuring such books, maps, manuscripts, &c., as contain the best information in regard to the geography, manners, customs, &c., of the countries in which the establishment of missions is proposed, together with such other works as shall afford aid to the Board in conducting its operations in the most enlightened and successful manner. The Board may also subscribe for the various periodical missionary publications of the day, and procure the Reports of Missionary Boards.

XII.—REPORT TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The Board shall render to the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church every four years, a faithful account of all its transactions, during the period of service, and turn over to that body all books, papers, and funds in its possession, and all societies, circuits, and missionary stations under its control and government.

From the foregoing, you will perceive that the Board has been fully and permanently organized, and has at least accomplished something in promotion of the missionary cause. The members of the Board were necessarily inexperienced in the department in which they were called to labor, yet according to their ability, with an eye to the glory of God, the advancement of his cause, and the interests of the church, they have endeavored faithfully to discharge the duties pertaining to their station. Although but little apparently has been done, yet they cannot but indulge the hope that from these small beginnings great and lasting good will result.

Could suitable men be obtained, the church, we have no doubt, from the disposition already manifested, would be willing to do her part nobly in sustaining them in foreign fields. But while the harvest is truly great, the laborers are few.

For a full account of the financial operations of the Board, you are referred to the Report of the Treasurer, which is herewith transmitted.

All books, papers and funds in possession of the Board, are subject to your order; and all societies connected with the mission already established, are placed under your control.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN CLARK, *Pres. of the Board.*

JAMES ROBISON, *Rec. Sec'ry.*

TREASURER'S REPORT.

		DP
1850.		
Sept.	From Sarah Rinehart, Pa.....	\$5 00
1851.		
Feb. 13.	" Mrs. Juliet English, Pittsburg, Pa.....	2 00
"	" North Illinois Conference, Rev. D. Bagley.....	20 00
July 7.	" Henry Palmer, Pittsburg, Pa.....	5 00
"	" Mrs Rosana Palmer, do.....	5 00
Aug. 7.	" James Dixon. do.....	2 00
Sept. 3.	" Madison M. P. Society, Md.....	3 00
" 5.	" Pipe Creek Benevolent Society M. P. Church, Md., per Rev. W. Collier,.....	200 00
"	" M. P. Church, Alleghany city, Pa.....	43 50

1853.	TREASURER'S REPORT—CONTINUED.	Dr.
Feb. 9.	From J. S. Vansantz,	\$5 00
"	" Sarah C. Falkner, Ohio,	1 00
"	" Rev. A. H. Bassett, do,	5 50
"	" " J. S. Thrap, Mus. Dist.,	6 12
May 2.	" " Joshua W. Rutledge, General Agent,	241 11
"	" " R. H. Sutton, Ohio ct., Pitts. Dist.,	4 75
"	" John W. Phillips, Illinois,	5 00
June 23.	" Rev. H. Lucas, Waynesburg ct., Pitts. Dist.,	5 00
28.	" " J. Bolton, Connelsville ct., do,	4 00
30.	" R. S. Norris, New Market ct., Md. Dist.,	1 00
July 12.	" Rev. J. S. Thrap, col'd, Pisgah ct., Ohio,	11 00
15.	" " E. Y. Reese, Balt. Md., collections,	264 75
"	" Jno. Hawkins, Ohio, per Rev. J. Burns,	5 00
"	" Rev. R. S. Simonton, Brownsville ct., Pitts. D.	2 00
Aug. 8.	" " N. Gillespie Uniontown do,	95
"	" " A. H. Bassett, Ohio collections,	20 00
"	" " J. C. Hunt, Ohio district collection,	10 00
11.	" W. Miller, Alleghany city, Pa. collections,	4 10
18.	" Rev. W. Collier, per Ohio ct., Pitts. Dist.,	2 00
23.	" " G. M. Scott, col'd, Mus. Dist.,	8 00
		<hr/>
27.	" " J. W. Rutledge, General Agent,	606 28
"	" Pisgah ct. Mus. Dist., per Rev. J. S. Thrap,	246 92
"	" Jefferson ct., Pitts. do. do. J. M. Mason,	3 33
"	" Pisgah do. Mus. do. do. J. S. Thrap,	3 00
20.	" Wm. Stewart, Hagerstown, Md., administrator on the estate of Rev. F. Stier, in full,	50
22.	" Jefferson ct., Mus. Dist., per Rev. J. Souder,	150 00
Sep. 22.	" Manchester ct., Pitts. Dist., per Rev. J. Cowl,	16 00
29.	" Jno. Bowman, Vienna ct., Mus. Dist.,	16 50
"	" Geo. W. Luman, Round Bottom, Va.,	1 00
"	" Jno. W. Luman do. do,	50
Oct. 31.	" J. Q. Fleming, Newark ct., Mus. Dist., per Rev. A. H. Bassett,	50
"	" Collections on Perrysburg ct., Ohio Dist., by Rev. S. Ensmeyer, per Rev. A. H. Bassett,	2 00
"	" Rev. S. Widney, Treas. of the F. M. Society of the Wabash Dist., per Rev. A. H. Bassett	3 00
Nov. 3.	" J. W. Rutledge, General Agent,	20 00
"	" Mrs. Shinn, Alleghany city, Pa.,	127 29
"	" Joseph Nuzum, Palatine. Va.,	3 00
"	" Mrs. Juliet English, Pitts. Pa.,	75
1854.		2 00
Mch, 4.	" Rev. David Wilson, Harper's Ferry, Va.,	
"	" " E. Y. Reese, Balt., Md. collections,	10 00
		204 45
		<hr/>
Ap'l 14.	" Betsey Benidick,	563 82
"	" James Hicks, Cin., Ohio, per Rev. R. Rose,	2 00
"	" Subscribers for M. & S. S. Journal,	20 00
		637 81
		<hr/>
1851.	CR.	\$4,925 03
	Paid for Treasurer's Book,	
Feb. 28.	" Rev. Geo. Brown, traveling expenses in meet- ing the Board,	1 62
"	" " Daniel Bagley, for his outfit as Mission- ary to Oregon,	2 50
"	" " W. Collier, traveling expenses in meet- ing the Board,	900 00
"	" Exchange on two drafts for Rev. D. Bagley, amounting to \$450,	25 00
		4 50

1852.		TREASURER'S REPORT—CONTINUED.		Dr.
Mar. 9	From Waterman Palmer, Alleghany city, Pa.....	\$10 00		
	“ Rev. Joshua W. Rutledge, General Agent,....	259 62		
April 16	“ David Moon, Jr., Alleghany city, Pa.....	5 00		
	“ Mrs. Fitzsimmons, do. do.....	1 00		
	“ F. H. Collier, Esq., Pitts. Pa.....	5 00		
24	“ Maryland Annual Conference, per W. Starr,..	170 87		
	“ First M. P. S. School, Alleghany city, Pa. (for Oregon Mission,).....	2 64		
	“ John Scott, Pittsburg, Pa.....	5 00		
June 24.	“ Rev. A. H. Bassett, Ohio collections,.....	23 75		
“ 28.	“ “ T. B. Graham, Ohio Dist. collections,....	4 25		
	“ “ A. H. Bassett, collections by J. M. Young, Catawba, Ohio Dist.....	4 00		
	“ J. W. Baker, New Brighton, Pa.....	2 00		
	“ Rev. Joseph Burns, Union School House, Pitts. Dist.....	2 42		
	“ “ do. do. Nessly Meeting House,.....	1 43		
			496 98	
	“ Wm. Stewart, Frederick, Md., Administrator on the estate of Rev. F. Stier, for note with interest,.....	98 25		
Aug. 18.	“ Rev. Joshua W. Rutledge, General Agent,....	318 57		
	“ Rev. John Scott, Ohio ct., Pitts. Dist.....	5 50		
	“ Mrs. Ann Redhead, Cin., Ohio, per Rev. Josiah Varden,.....	5 00		
	“ Rev. E. Y. Reese, Balt., Md., collections,.....	214 00		
	“ J. Souder, collections on subscriptions procured by Rev. F. Stier, in Seneca co., Ohio, his last effort in the missionary cause,.....	18 00		
	“ Rev. A. H. Bassett, Ohio collections,.....	3 50		
Sept. 30	“ “ Joshua W. Rutledge, General Agent,....	104 71		
	“ Pittsburg Annual Con. collections, per Rev. J. Scott,.....	27 93		
	“ J. P. Strong, collections on Cherry Grove ct., North Ill. Conference,.....	21 12		
	“ the same, North Ill. Conference collections,...	6 88		
	“ do Donations,.....	2 00		
	“ Rev. Joshua Hudson, Connecticut,.....	8 00		
			833 46	
	“ “ A. H. Bassett, Ohio collections,.....	8 25		
	“ “ J. C. Wright, Northfield, Md.,.....	5 00		
	“ “ W. Reeves, Fairmont, Va., col'd,.....	5 22		
	“ Joel Nuzum, Palatine, Va.,.....	75		
	“ Wm. Fitzsimmons, Alleghany city, Pa.,.....	1 50		
	“ Thos H. Gilson, Birmingham, Pa.,.....	1 50		
	“ Mr. Stephens, Alleghany city, Pa.,.....	1 50		
	“ Geo. Rodgers, Bucyrus ct., Mus. Dist.....	4 00		
	“ Jas. Walkden, Ohio, do.....	1 00		
	“ Rev. J. B. Walker, col'd, Xenia ct., Ohio Dist.	14 00		
	“ “ R. H. Sutton, col'd, Ohio ct., Pitts. Dist..	8 00		
	“ “ H. S. Layton, do. do.....	3 45		
	“ J. P. Strong, Cherry Grove ct., N. Ill. Con.,...	5 00		
	“ James Hicks, Cincinnati, Ohio,.....	20 00		
1853.	“ Rev. W. McGee, Charles city, Va.,.....	5 75		
Feb. 9.	“ “ Joshua W. Rutledge, General Agent,....	389 62		
	“ “ John Cowl, Pitts. Dist.....	4 75		
	“ “ V. Lucas, do.....	2 00		
	“ Mrs. Violet, Pitts Pa.....	5 00		
	“ Rev. D. D. Hughes, Wheeling ct. Pitts. Dist...	2 12		
			488 41	

1853.	TREASURER'S REPORT—CONTINUED.	Dr.
Sept. 10.	Paid for Printing 10th No. Journal,.....	\$29 50
"	" " Three dispatches to Rev. D. Wilson,.....	1 40
"	" " One dispatch to Rev. W. Collier to meet Board, 25c.; answer returned, 33c.....	58
		<u>1,336 51</u>
Oct. 8.	" For Printing 11th No. Journal,.....	29 50
"	" Rev. A. H. Bassett, for subscribers in Oregon to the Recorder, and collected by Rev. D. Bagley,.....	48 00
"	" For Printing 12th No. Journal,.....	29 50
"	" Rev. J. W. Rutledge, 2 months' salary,.....	83 33
"	" do. do. traveling expenses,.....	26 61
Nov. 12.	" Remittance to Rev. D. Bagley, Oregon,.....	200 00
"	" Rev. Geo. Brown, expenses to meet Board,..	4 00
"	" For Printing 1st No. vol. 2d, Journal,.....	30 00
Dec. 3.	" do. 2d do. do.....	30 00
1854.		
Feb. 3.	" do. 3d do. do.....	30 00
March 4.	" Rev. D. Wilson, traveling expenses in meet- ing Board,.....	25 00
18.	" For Printing 4th No. Journal,.....	30 00
April 19.	" do. 5th do.....	30 00
"	" Sundries for Journal,.....	3 42
		<u>599 36</u>
		\$3,404 27

W. J. TROTH, Treasurer.

PITTSBURG, April 24th, 1854.

No. X. PETITION FROM STEUBENVILLE.

Whereas the New Testament Scriptures, the practice of the primitive Churches, and the actual condition of the whole Christian community in all times and countries, plainly show the design and necessity of a Pastor or Pastors in every individual Church:

And whereas regular biennial changes of Ministers are incompatible with this design and necessity, in many cases; preventing, as it does, the formation of those ties of Christian acquaintance, and attachment, and confidence, and sympathy, so useful and necessary in such a relation; and severing asunder those ties when they have been formed:

And whereas it has appeared plainly to our minds that the frequency of these changes in the Methodist Protestant Church of this Station, and the consequent removal from among us of those Ministers who had been eminently useful, before they had accomplished the work manifestly assigned to them by Divine Providence; is a great evil, which we believe to be remediable, and which should be remedied as soon as practicable;

And whereas the agitations of the Church occasioned by these frequent changes of Pastors are calculated to be, and sometimes have been, detrimental to the peace and harmony of our Christian brotherhood, and have retarded the growth and prosperity of the Church:—Therefore,

Resolved—That we will use all reasonable and lawful means to obtain a more permanent pastoral relation than we have heretofore had, from a deep conviction that it will greatly promote the spiritual interests and prosperity of the Church.

Resolved—That, in accordance with the foregoing Resolution, we petition the next General Conference to pass a Resolution recommending to the Annual Conferences such action as may be necessary to prepare the way for the following General Conference to change Section 7, Article 10, of the Con-

1852.	TREASURER'S REPORT—CONTINUED.	Dr.
Jan. 28.	Paid Rev. J. W. Rutledge traveling expenses in meeting the Board,.....	\$20 00
Mar. 19.	" Rev. J. W. Rutledge, Gen. Agent, 2 months' salary at the rate of \$400 per year,.....	66 67
"	" his traveling expenses,.....	17 25
April 2.	" Advertising for Charter,.....	5 00
"	" F. H. Collier, Esq., fees for obtaining Charter,.....	15 00
April 17.	" Rev. J. W. Rutledge, Gen. Agent,.....	50 00
"	" For telegraphic dispatches to St. Louis, Mo.,.....	3 14
July 12.	" Stationary for the Cor. Secretary,.....	3 58
"	" Rev. D. B. Dorsey, Jr., traveling expenses in meeting the Board,.....	10 00
"	" For telegraphing to Rev. D. Wilson of the confirmation of his appointment as Missionary to China,.....	50
Aug. 2.	" For letter stamps for Cor. Secretary,.....	50
19.	" Rev. J. W. Rutledge, five months' salary,....	166 67
"	" his traveling expenses,.....	20 82
"	" J. W. Rutledge, removing family,.....	28 71
Oct. 2.	" do. 1½ month's salary,.....	50 00
"	" do. traveling expenses,.....	9 92
"	" do. rent for 6 mo. from April 1,.....	30 00
"	" For advertising to altering charter,.....	2 00
"	" Seal,.....	6 50
Dec. 14.	" Printing first No. M. & S. S. Journal,.....	28 50
		<hr/> 1,468 38
"	" For book to record names of subscribers to the Journal,.....	75
"	" " Printing 2d No. Journal,.....	28 50
"	" " Recording petition, taxes and fees for altering charter.....	1 25
"	" " Final ordered charter,.....	25
"	" " Printing 3d No. Journal,.....	28 50
"	" " Telegraphing to Mr. Button, Harper's Ferry, Va., as to Bro. D. Wilson's illness,....	80
1853.		
Feb. 9.	" Rev. J. W. Rutledge, 4½ months' salary, from the 2d Oct. to Feb. 19, at rate of \$460,....	172 50
"	" Rev. J. W. Rutledge, balance on 1 month's salary, at the rate of \$500, commencing January 9, 1853,.....	3 33
"	" Agent's traveling expenses,.....	67 12
"	" Counterfeit money,.....	1 00
M'ch 19.	" Rev. J. W. Rutledge, 1 month's salary,.....	41 67
"	" For Printing 4th No. Journal,.....	28 50
"	" do. 5th do.....	28 50
May 2.	" Remitted to Rev. D. Bagley,.....	300 00
19.	" Rev. J. W. Rutledge, 2 months' salary,.....	83 33
"	" do. do. traveling expenses,.....	22 09
"	" For Printing 6th No. Journal,.....	26 50
June 1.	" " Making an engraved head for Journal,...	17 00
18.	" Advanced Rev. J. W. Rutledge towards buying a horse,.....	60 00
July 11.	" For Printing 7th & 8th Nos. Journal, at \$29 50	59 00
"	" Rev. E. Y. Reese, for Books sent to Rev. D. Bagley, Oregon,.....	132 55
"	" " E. Y. Reese, one year's subscription for the Protestant, by Jno. Burgee, to be collected by Rev. D. Bagley,.....	2 00
Aug. 6.	" For Printing 9th No. Journal,.....	29 50
"	" Rev. J. W. Rutledge, 3½ months' salary,.....	145 87
"	" Traveling expenses,.....	24 54

Church History for the sum of three hundred dollars: one half in books, and the other in a promissory note maturing for payment on the 18th of August next ensuing the sale.

The nominal value of the plates thus sold, was estimated in our last report at \$4900.00. But we received for them only \$3300.00, leaving our actual assets at our last report, sixteen hundred dollars less than the apparent surplus of assets over liabilities. We mention this because, it will be necessary to deduct this sum from our reported worth at your last session in order to determine the increased value of our assets as the result of the business.

We have published of the pulpit edition of the Hymn Book, 1500 copies; of which 730 have been sold: of the common Hymn Book 8000, nearly all of which have been sold together with what were on hand at the last session: of the Discipline 7000, which have been sold: of the Revival Hymn Book 3000, nearly all of which have been sold: of Rev. Alex. McCaine's Defence of the Truth 1500, a few copies only remain unsold: of the Minutes of the General Conference 1000 copies, about three-fourths of them sold: of Questions and Answers on Church Government 5000; of which over 4000 have been sold. The Methodist Protestant has slowly but steadily increased in circulation and in revenue. At present we print a larger sheet than at your last session, and on better paper. These improvements seemed to be demanded by the character of cotemporary newspapers. Of course our expenses were thus augmented. Besides this the price of printing has materially advanced. Notwithstanding these disadvantages, and the large amounts lost annually by deaths, removals and other causes of non-payment, this department is in a most healthy condition, and to its profits, principally, are we indebted for our present freedom from pecuniary embarrassment.

It is made the duty of the Editor and Book Agent to present to us quarterly, a report of the cash transactions, including all receipts, from whatever source, and all expenditures or disbursements. These reports are referred to a special Committee from this Board, who have access to all the books and papers of the Concern as vouchers, and who compare the items on record and verify the figures and additions. The following table will present to you an aggregate result from these quarterly reports, showing the receipts and disbursements from the 1st of March, 1850, to March 1st, 1854. Accompanying them will be found the original quarterly reports, with annual recapitulations, as the data from which this table has been constructed:

TABLE No. 1,

Reports from March 1st, 1850, to March 1st, 1854.

	1850-51.	1851-52.	1852-53.	1853-54.	Total.
Cash from Ledger accounts,	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
for Books.....	3,308 27	2,595 80	3,060 96	3,547 25	12,512 28
" from sales of books,..	667 04	531 98	685 51	645 65	2,530 18
" " Methodist Prot...	5,373 25	5,051 95	5,216 70	6,243 38	21,885 28
" " Olive Branch,...	88 62	59 50	84 00	51 75	283 87
" " Western Recor.,	11 00	4 00	3 50	9 50	28 00
" on Trust & Donations,	191 00	2 00			193 00
" from Dr. E. Bradford,					
for appropriations					
as directed by him,	750 00				750 00
" on Clarke's Plates....		1000 00	500 00	500 00	2,000 00
" for Madison College.			53 00		53 00
	10,389 18	9,245 23	9,603 67	10,997 53	4,0235 61

stitution, so as to allow Ministers to be stationed a longer time in one place than they now are; and we pledge ourselves to use our individual influence to promote this object.

Resolved—That we are favorable to the Itinerant system, and earnestly desire its continuance wherever it is applicable; but cannot believe that it necessarily does, or should, by rule exclude a more permanent plan for some Churches.

Resolved—That brother T. Hanna be requested to present the foregoing Preamble and Resolutions to the General Conference, with the signatures of as many members of the Church as may choose to sign it.

WILLIAM HAWKINS,
REUEL POWELL,
JAMES HILL,
JOHN ARMSTRONG,
ISAAC HARMAN,
R. C. HAWKINS,
JOHN G. BARR,
WM. J. WOODS,
S. McMILLIN,
WILLIAM THOMPSON,
HENRY BEET,

JOSEPH B. PETERS,
W. B. KERLIN,
M. E. LUCAS,
THOMPSON HANNA,
R. C. PETERS,
M. M. LAUGHLIN,
MOSES DILLON,
JAMES S. ABRAHAM,
MATTHEW STEELE,
P. A. DOHRMAN,
J. A. DOHRMAN.

STEUBENVILLE, March 6, 1854.

NO. XI. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES.

That whereas the New York and Vermont Conferences, in view of peculiar circumstances to them deemed sufficiently important, agreed to become united into one District, and after the necessary preliminary steps were taken they accordingly became one, called the New York and Vermont District; therefore,

Resolved, That the boundaries of the said New York and Vermont be so regulated as to embrace at least the territories contained in the two Districts at the time of their consolidation.

J. J. SMITH.

NO. XII. REPORT OF THE BOOK DIRECTORY.

To the President and Members of the Gen. Conf. of the Meth. Prot. Church.

DEAR BRETHREN:—The term for which we were appointed to serve the Church, at the last session of the General Conference, having nearly expired, in conformity with the requirements of the Discipline, we beg leave to submit to your approval a statement of the business of the Church Periodical and Book Department, from the 1st of March, 1850, inclusive to this 20th day of April, 1854.

By a resolution of the last General Conference, the Book Directory were instructed to sell the stock of Plates of Clarke's Commentary, and Mosheim's Church History, to the best advantage. On the 27th of February, 1851, a sale was effected with Messrs. H. S. and J. Applegate & Co., of Cincinnati, Ohio, on the following terms: that is to say, for the sum of three thousand dollars, payable as follows: one thousand dollars payable within ninety days of the delivery of said plates; five hundred dollars' worth of their books at cash prices; and fifteen hundred dollars in notes of five hundred dollars each, payable one, two, and three years after date, respectively. The notes have all matured and been paid: so that the transaction has been fully consummated, as per agreement.

On the 11th day of August, 1853, we effected with the same house at Cincinnati, under the name of Applegate & Co., a sale of the plates of Mosheim's

Resolved, 5. That whenever the additional sum of five thousand dollars shall be earned, the President and Directors shall proceed to make a distribution of said surplus, among the different Conference districts, in proportion to the amount received from said districts.

To facilitate such a distribution, whenever the sum of five thousand dollars shall have been accumulated the Book Agent, since the commencement of the 17th volume, (July, 1850,) has kept as nearly as possible an account of the several Annual Conferences or Districts from which the support of the Book Concern and Periodical has been received. The amounts will be found to verify the annual reports except the first year, in which they include only eight months of the transactions. A glance at tables Nos. 2 and 3, herewith presented, will show what portion of the receipts has come from the several and individual Conferences.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The following statement of assets and liabilities seems to give as lucid an exhibit as can be offered, of the present state of our church interests in this department. We do not think there is any over estimate in the value of the assets, a margin having been left for debts of a doubtful character. Still in reference to the Periodical the estimate can only approximate accuracy.

We have on hand :

Stock of Books and Stereotyped plates,.....	\$2,100 00
Book Accounts and Promissory Notes,.....	2,800 00
The subscription list of the Methodist Protestant, shows indebtedness running back ten or twelve years, amounting to some fifteen thousand dollars, but we presume the intrinsic worth to be, including present subscribers' debts,.....	7,000 00
Cash in hand, April 20th, 1854,.....	2,014 52
	<hr/>
	\$13,914 52
Our liabilities, including \$100 00 due to Meth. Prot. Church in St. Louis, should it ever be re-organized, that amount having been sent us as a conditional donation) not exceeding.....	800 00
	<hr/>
	\$13,114 52

NOTE.—The apparent value of assets over liabilities	
at last report was.....	\$9,792 27
We lost on plates,.....	1,600 00
Actual value at last report,.....	\$8,192 27
	<hr/>
Profit last four years,.....	\$4,922 25

It affords us great pleasure to be able, after so many years of embarrassment, to present you the Book Concern out of debt, and with handsome assets in possession. Eight years ago our liabilities amounted to some \$14,000 (including the expenses of the then current volume,) and our assets were inadequate to cover them, as has since been shown by their depreciated value. We commenced our labors with no small degree of apprehension; but Providence has

Disbursements from March 1st, 1850, to March 1st, 1854.

	1850-51.	1851-52.	1852-53.	1853-54.	Total.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Paid general expenses,...	1,032 41	514 36	593 01	599 46	2,739 24
" Bills for printing,...	2,355 00	2,464 00	1,801 00	2,249 50	8,869 50
" do. Printing paper,	2,274 29	1,702 50	1,926 67	2,331 38	8,234 84
" do. Binding,.....	970 28	989 75	771 42	782 04	3,513 49
" do. Merchandise for Store,.....	1,078 25	1,097 26	1,226 67	980 95	4,383 13
" do. Salaries,.....	1,291 62	1,698 25	1,772 00	1,792 00	6,553 87
" Rent of store,.....	250 00	250 00	250 00	250 00	1,000 00
" Notes in redemption of Scrip,.....	530 68	500 00			1,030 68
" T. F. Norris,.....	51 75				51 75
" For Dr. E. Bradford, as directed by him,	738 50				738 50
" Wesley Starr, Tres. S. S. Fund,....			1,318 67	562 00	1,880 67
" Phebean Society,....				803 45	803 45
	10,572 78	9,216 12	9,659 44	10,350 78	39,799 12

Dr. Cash on hand March 1st, 1850,..... \$ 293 69
 Receipts to March 1st, 1854,..... 40,235 61

Total, \$40,529 30

Cr. Expenditures as above,..... \$39,799 12

Cash in hand March 1st, 1854,..... \$ 730 18

To this we add the result of the business from March 1st, 1854, to April 20th, 1854.

1854.	DR.	\$	1854.	CR.	\$
Mar. 1.	To cash on hand,...	730 18	April 20.	By expenditures	
Apr. 20.	" Cash on Ledger			to date,.....	1,130 64
	accounts, Books,	804 56		" Cash in hand	
	" Cash on Meth.			to balance,....	2,014 52
	Prot. accounts..	999 54			
	" From Applegates	500 00			
	" Sales of Books, ..	96 20			
	" Olive Branch,...	14 68			
		<u>\$3145 16</u>			<u>\$3,145 16</u>

April 20th, 1854, Cash in hand \$2,014 52.

Of this amount eighteen hundred dollars are in the hands of Br. Wesley Starr, Treasurer, and the rest in Farmers and Planters' Bank at Baltimore, subject to the orders of the Book Agent, for the contingencies of the business.

The last General Conference passed, among other resolutions in reference to the Book Concern, the following;

" *Resolved*, 4. That whenever the Book and Periodical Department shall have discharged all liabilities and shall have accumulated the sum of five thousand dollars, in cash or available assets, said sum shall be held and deemed as its capital and not liable to distribution.

TABLE No. 3.

Receipts for Meth. Prot. from July 1st, 1850, to March 1st, 1854.

CONFERENCES.	1850-51.	1851-52.	1852-53.	1853-54.	Total.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Maryland,.....	1,062 76	1,535 89	1,362 37	1,988 10	5,949 12
Virginia,.....	442 70	565 42	617 51	694 24	2,319 87
Alabama.....	439 00	428 33	395 25	272 03	1,534 61
North Carolina,.....	276 25	343 98	332 58	411 28	1,364 09
Georgia.....	192 50	292 25	198 75	167 61	851 11
Tennessee and Huntsville,....	166 50	209 40	240 00	228 80	844 70
Mississippi,.....	129 00	145 75	149 40	222 00	646 15
Florida,.....	96 00	63 00	38 00	47 50	244 50
South Carolina,.....	36 00	38 00	46 50	38 00	158 50
Arkansas,.....	51 50	80 00	94 25	110 00	335 75
Texas,.....	17 00	60 75	62 00	106 44	246 19
Lousiana,.....	44 50	61 50	109 00	84 00	299 00
New Jersey,.....	22 00	42 00	76 50	92 50	233 00
Pennsylvania,.....	108 50	92 52	117 16	193 84	512 02
Illinois and N. and S. Illinois,	118 00	139 00	143 50	273 50	674 00
Indiana and Wabash,.....	27 50	39 00	47 50	48 50	162 50
Ohio and Muskingum,.....	79 00	74 00	141 75	121 78	416 53
Missouri and Platt.....	43 00	76 50	129 00	95 90	344 40
Pittsburg,.....	106 90	294 66	281 94	359 96	1,043 46
New York,.....	95 00	164 75	227 25	203 50	690 50
Genesee,.....	86 50	150 00	164 15	173 36	574 01
Onandaga,.....	29 00	75 00	95 66	142 50	342 16
Michigan,.....	16 00	32 00	78 00	103 83	229 83
Boston,.....	4 00	14 00	7 50	19 21	44 71
Vermont,.....	13 00	26 25	24 00	12 00	75 25
Iowa,.....	9 00	8 00	33 18	27 00	77 18
Wisconsin,.....			4 00	6 00	10 00
	3 711 11	5,051 95	5,216 70	6,243 38	20 223 41

No. XIII. REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A majority of the Finance Committee, to whom was referred a resolution inquiring into "the expediency of so altering and amending that part of the Discipline which relates to the salary and allowance of ministers and preachers as to commit the whole subject to the action of the several Annual Conferences," beg leave to report:

That they deem the proposed alteration inexpedient, for the following reason: 1st. They fear that such a change would have the effect of introducing greater inequality in the amounts paid to the preachers in different parts of our work than would be to the interest of the M. P. Church. 2d. In giving unrestricted control of the subject to the Annual Conferences, it might become, in some places, a practice to make such differences in the salaries of ministers and preachers in the same district as would interfere with the efficiency of our Itinerant plan. Churches being allowed to offer what inducements they might please in order to secure the services of the most able and talented ministers, others less able to offer advantages, might be denied the benefit arising from the labors of such ministers, which they have now an equal chance of obtaining. For these and other reasons the Committee deem it inexpedient to grant unrestricted power over this subject to the Annual Conferences.

Nevertheless, as it appears impossible to make an absolute general rule which shall operate equally in all sections of the country, they deem it advisable that a restricted power over this subject be granted to the Annual Con-

avored us: kind friends have assisted us; our business has prospered, and now we take great satisfaction in presenting you the result. Praying the great Head of the Church to preside over your deliberations, we remain, dear brethren, yours in the bonds of a peaceful gospel,

WESLEY STARR,
JOSEPH BROWN,
JOHN W. RICHARDSON,
T. D. VALIANT,
JESSE SHREEVE,
ROBT. B. VARDEN,
WM. DULANEY.

BALTIMORE, April 20th, 1854.

TABLE No. 2.

Receipts for Books from July 1st, 1850, to March 1st, 1854.

CONFERENCES.	1850-51.	1851-52.	1852-53.	1853-54	Total.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Maryland,.....	647 72	871 91	940 02	1,056 97	3,516 62
Virginia,.....	206 18	236 04	276 62	202 18	921 02
Alabama,.....	259 45	146 75	182 18	192 62	781 00
North Carolina,.....	88 25	77 51	72 58	320 52	558 86
Georgia,.....	99 25	64 75	57 42	46 39	267 81
New York,.....	62 25	67 87	45 00	109 01	284 13
Pennsylvania,.....	37 00	25 75	50 00	86 16	198 91
Pittsburg,.....	93 10	122 09	391 60	396 82	1,003 61
Ohio and Muskingum,.....	190 14	333 63	396 31	563 65	1,483 73
Illinois and N. and S. Illinois,	136 00	226 00	126 00	31 00	519 00
Indiana and Wabash,.....	3 50	26 00	11 00	14 00	54 50
Genesee,.....	56 50	10 00	51 60	40 16	158 26
Onandaga,.....	8 00	111 00	37 00	91 50	247 50
South Carolina,.....	33 88	37 50	10 00	3 00	84 38
Missouri and Platt,.....	174 00		25 00	55 10	254 10
Lousiana,.....	44 00	27 00	58 50	14 00	143 50
Texas,.....	24 25	12 75	21 00	26 95	84 95
Tennessee,.....	77 50	71 40	48 13	2 60	199 63
Florida,.....	12 50	40 50	9 25	23 00	85 25
Arkansas,.....	4 50	32 50	33 00	39 00	109 00
Michigan,.....		2 60	82 00	59 67	144 27
Vermont,.....		75			75
New Jersey,.....		25	38 00	118 45	156 70
Mississippi,.....		51 25	96 50	50 50	198 25
Wisconsin,.....			1 00		1 00
Iowa,.....			1 25	4 00	5 25
Cash sales,.....	395 52	531 98	685 51	645 65	2,258 66
	2,653 49	3,127 78	3,746 47	4,192 90	13,720 64

No. XV. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES.

Whereas a new conference district, called South Illinois Conference, has been stricken off from the Illinois District, having made the constitutional or disciplinary arrangements, and having a membership of 1,264 members, and leaving a membership of 1,246 members in the Illinois district; *Resolved*, therefore, that South Illinois Conference be recognized by this General Conference as a Conference district, to be bounded as follows:—Beginning at the base line on the Mississippi river, running east to Kaskaskia river, thence up Sciota river to Vandalia, thence on the National road, till you range with the western line of Cumberland and Cole's counties due north to the north-west corner of Coles, thence due east to the southwest corner of Vermillion county, thence due north to the line due north, to the line between this and the North Illinois Conference.

P. T. LAISHLEY, *Chairman*.

No. XVI. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES.

Whereas a small strip of country lying within the bounds of the original lines of the Indiana Conference, and having by temporary agreement between the Wabash and Indiana Conference been occupied by the Wabash Conference; and whereas, by the consent of both conferences, it is now agreed that the Wabash Conference shall permanently occupy said territory; *Resolved*, therefore, that said territory be considered by this General Conference within the limits of the Wabash Conference, and the line be as follows, by the National road west to the State line.

P. T. LAISHLEY.

No. XVII. REPORT OF THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

The Judiciary Committee report as follows, viz:—1st on page 36, sec. 1, after the word "*trial*," add the following viz:—

Provided, in all cases, where ministers and preachers cannot, from any cause, be had, *laymen* may be taken to serve on the committee.

2d. On the same page, near the bottom, strike out the words "*ministers* or preachers to serve on."

3d. Paper No. 4 should be referred to the Executive Committee, all of which, &c.

GEO. BROWN,
J. S. REESE,
J. J. AMOS,
J. S. ROBINSON,
J. M. HAYES.

No. XVIII. EXTRACTS FROM THE NORTH ILLINOIS DISTRICT.

RESOLUTIONS ON SLAVERY, ADOPTED BY CONFERENCE.

1st. *Resolved*, That in our solemn judgment, slave-holding is a sin against God, and repugnant to every correct feeling of the human heart, condemned by the word of God, and by the constitution and elementary principles of the Methodist Protestant Church.

2d. This Annual Conference believes it a duty respectfully to urge our sister Conferences to co-operate with us in the use of all prudent measures for the extirpation of this sum of all villainies from the church and the world.

3d. That slave-holding is a disqualification for membership in the church of Jesus Christ.

4th. In our judgment the fugitive slave law is a most atrocious effort to abrogate the law of God, which we claim to be the *higher law* binding and controlling our conduct in relation to our fellow men, and we cannot obey it.

The next session of Conference to be held in Princeton, Bureau county, commencing on the second Tuesday of September, A. D., 1853.

CENTREVILLE, Dec. 3, 1852.

W. W. FAUL, }
J. K. GRAY, } *Publishing Committee.*

ferences. Your Committee beg leave to recommend that the Discipline be so altered, on page 128, as to provide that the allowance of a single minister or preacher shall not be less than one hundred nor more than two hundred dollars and his traveling expenses.

The allowance of a married preacher not less than 200 nor more than 400 dollars. That each child of a minister or preacher be allowed not less than 20 nor more than 40 dollars, and that the same limits be fixed for the allowance to the orphans of ministers and preachers who die in the itinerancy.

Your Committee recommend that the several Annual Conferences have power to fix the amount of salary for ministers and preachers subject to its jurisdiction within the specified limits, provided that the rule shall be general and made to apply to all its ministers and preachers equally.

W. W. WALKER, Chairman.
W. D. WILKERSON,
T. A. REED,
H. B. WOODHOUSE.

No. XIV. REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee beg leave to report in part:

1st. We recommend that the second clause of the article, entitled Admission to Membership, on page 35, be altered so as to read thus: In Stations admittance to full membership shall be by the vote of a majority of the class to which the member is attached; and that section fifth of the article entitled Leaders' meeting, page 42, be stricken out.

2d On the communication from Washington, signed by James A. Kennedy, in reference to the property question, referring to page 18, section 3, of the Constitution, and page 71, section 4, of the Book of Discipline, your Committee cannot agree, and, therefore, refer the matter to the General Conference for its action.

3d. On the communication from Steubenville, your Committee report that the General Conference, not being clothed with conventional powers, have no jurisdiction of the matter.

4th. On the striking out of the word white, in sections first and second of Article 12 of the Constitution, there not being the constitutional number of Conferences recommending it, the General Conference has no jurisdiction in the case.

5th On the resolution of Br. D. C. Carson, relative to the duties of the Advisory Committee, we report adversely.

6th. On the resolution of the Maryland Annual Conference, offered by br. Southerland, in reference to increasing the number of stewards on circuits, we report that, it being a constitutional provision, this General Conference has no jurisdiction, from the fact that two-thirds of the Annual Conferences have not recommended a change.

7th. On the resolution of D. C. Carson, requesting the Executive Committee to inquire into the propriety of defining the powers of a Special Quarterly Conference, your Committee are of opinion that it should be confined to the business named in the call.

8th. On the resolution of the Ohio Annual Conference, presented by br. Flood, in reference to striking out the third division of section 4th, Article 7th, of the Constitution, your Committee report that it cannot have the consideration of this General Conference, for the reason that it has not the recommendation of two-thirds of the Annual Conferences organized under the Constitution of the M. P. Church.

9th. On the resolution of br. J. J. Smith and others, in reference to changing the time of the meeting of the Electoral College, your Committee would recommend that the article in the book of Discipline, entitled, Regulations for the Government of the Electoral College, be altered so as to read thus: The Electoral College shall assemble during the session of the Annual Conference, and shall be organized by the appointment of a Chairman, Secretary, three Judges, &c.

Z. RAGAN, Chairman.

No. XXII. REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

The Committee to whom were referred the resolutions of the North Illinois Conference, beg leave to report the following:

After a careful examination, the Committee have agreed that Annual Conferences are required (see p 53, art. 24) to forward such extracts from their minutes as they may deem proper for publication in the Methodist Protestant; but at the same time we are of the opinion (see p. 132, art. 2) that the Editor is invested with discretionary power in the conduct of that journal, and can suppress what, in his judgment, would agitate the Church, and injure the circulation of the paper, in the success of which all sections of the Church are alike interested. We therefore concur in the opinion that the conduct of the Editor in suppressing the said resolutions was, under the circumstances, just and proper. All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. G. WHITFIELD, *Chairman*,
J. J. SMITH,
W. B. EVANS,
CHAS. W. BUTTON,
S. A. REED.

No. XXIII. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Committee on Home and Foreign Missions respectfully report that they have rendered careful attention to the important subject to them referred, and have also duly considered the several documents and propositions placed in their hands.

Your Committee deem that we have cause of gratulation, and of gratitude to God, that in our branch of the Church, within the last four years, a spirit of missionary enterprise has been awakened up, and which is evidently on the increase. The report of the Board of Foreign Missions, which has been read before the Conference, and the accompanying report of the Treasurer thereof, present facts which are truly cheering and encouraging to the Christian heart.

The labors of the Board, during the last quadrennial period, as also the labors of the Missionary Agents by them employed, and of the Missionary by them sent out to Oregon, have evidently received the smiles of the great Head of the Church, through whose tender mercy such a measure of success has already resulted, as to convince our brethren that they have "not run in vain, nor labored in vain." Herein we rejoice, and herein we will rejoice. And let united prayers ascend, even from all hearts, that our incipient missionary enterprise may be as the "little one that shall become a thousand," the feeble one that shall "become a great nation. The Lord hasten it in his time."

The sum of nearly five thousand dollars has been raised from various sources, for the purposes of the Board, since its organization in 1850, and an unexpended balance of over fifteen hundred dollars now remains in the treasury.

The Committee recommend that this General Conference approve the action of the Board for the last four years.

The small monthly publication, called the Missionary and Sabbath School Journal, commenced by the Board, has proved useful, and has, thus far, as the Board report, "more than met expenses." The Committee would commend this publication to the patronage of our people generally.

The proposition of br. Clancy, referred to the Committee, receives in part the concurrence of the Committee.

The Memorial from the Des Moines Mission, Mo., with the representations of br. Hoskins in behalf thereof, the Committee commend to the favorable consideration of the Conference.

The following modifications of the Discipline, at pp. 72, 73, and 74, are recommended by the Committee for the adoption of the Conference.

At p. 72, near the foot of the page, strike out the word "foreign," so as to make the title of the Board read simply, "*The Board of Missions.*"

No. XIX. REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee report further :

10th. On the papers from the different Conferences in reference to the alteration of Eleventh Article of the Constitution, defining the duties of the President of the Annual Conference, we report that a sufficient number of the Annual Conferences have not recommended a change of said article to give this General Conference jurisdiction of the case.

11th. On the Article in the Discipline, entitled general duties of Trustees, page 71, we recommend that the following words be added to the 5th section, viz: after paying any debts that may exist against said Society.

12th. On the Resolution of br. W. H. Wills, in reference to amending sec. 8th of the article entitled duties of the Superintendent, page 62, we recommend that the word same, in the 4th line, be erased, and the words, "two latter, with the names of all the members in full membership over the age of 21 years," be inserted.

13th. On the Resolution of br. W. H. Wills, in reference to the duties of Class Leaders, page 66, sec. 2d, we recommend that the following words be added, viz: and to hand over the records of his society to his successor.

14th. On the Resolution of the Onandaga Conference, relative to the condition of colored membership, we report that this General Conference has no jurisdiction, as a sufficient number of Annual Conferences have not requested any change.

15th. On the Resolution of the Georgia Conference, in reference to the stationing of ministers, Article 10th, sec. 7th, of the Constitution, we report that this Conference has no jurisdiction, a sufficient number of recommendations not having been presented.

Z. RAGAN, Chairman.

No. XX. REPORT OF JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

The Judiciary Committee, to whom were referred the documents relating to the difficulties between the Illinois and the N. Illinois Conferences, make the following Report.

After an examination of the documents relating to their difficulties, and hearing the parties in the premises, we have agreed to recommend to General Conference the adoption of the following Resolution :

Resolved, That the General Conference has no Constitutional control over the questions at issue between the said Conferences. All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEORGE BROWN,

J. J. AMOS,

JESSE S. ROBINSON,

J. M. HAYES.

No. XXI. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MEANS OF GRACE

The Committee on Means of Grace beg leave to make an additional report, as follows :

We recommend to strike out so much of the 5th section, on page 61, beginning with "to renew tickets," down to "improper persons." Also to strike out of the same section, on page 62, "No Superintendent, either of a Circuit or Station, shall permit any love-feast," &c., down to "as a meeting of religious confidence and edification;" making the entire section to read thus:—"to hold love-feasts, general class meetings, and watch meetings, and appoint prayer meetings, and visit the sick, the poor, and the aged and infirm members, as well as those in health and better circumstances. And he shall take the counsel and direction of the Quarterly Conference, in regard to the most prudent method in bringing love-feasts under proper regulations."

of the slave would be promoted thereby, is a violation of the morality of the Christian Scriptures.

2d. *Resolved*, That according to the Constitution of the Methodist Protestant Church, taking the word of God for the rule, the local judiciary, and not the General Conference, is the proper tribunal by which all questions of morality bearing upon the standing of members of the Methodist Protestant Church should be determined.

Your Committee further recommend that in Discipline, Sec. 8, (11th line from top,) the word "at" be stricken out, and the words *with or without* be inserted in its place.

Your Committee further recommend that on page 71. Article "*Home Missionaries*," the member of the sentence in the third line, reading, "in any unoccupied portions of its district," be stricken out.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Z. RAGAN,
S. M. SHORT,
TRUMAN HINMAN,
J. J. SMITH.

No. XXVI. REPORT OF JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

The Judiciary Committee beg leave to report:

1. On page 43, sec. 2, add at the end, "When a case is so referred, a prosecutor shall be appointed by the Conference in behalf of the church."

2. At page 48, sec. 3, at the end, add—"and the Conference shall appoint a prosecutor in behalf of the church." When charges are preferred against a minister or preacher in the intervals of Conference, the President shall appoint the prosecutor.

The Annual Conferences respectively shall provide for the payment of any expenses incurred in bringing committees from a distance to take part in judicial investigations.

GEORGE BROWN,
J. S. REESE,
J. J. ROBINSON,
J. M. HAYS.

No. XXVII. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES.

Your Committee on Boundaries beg leave to report that they have had under consideration the constitutionality of the setting off of the Platt District, and that the said district was set off according to the provisions of the Discipline, and that the boundaries of said district be as follows:—

Beginning at the junction of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, thence northwardly up the Missouri to the north boundary of the State of Missouri, thence following the said State line east to the main branch of the Shariton river, thence down said branch to the State road leading from St. Joseph to the city of Hannibal, thence down the Mississippi river to the place of beginning. We recommend said district to be received as a Conference District.

P. T. LAISHLEY, *Chairman*.
JOS. ASHTON,
REDDICK HORN.

No. XXVIII. COMMITTEE ON RATIO OF REPRESENTATION.

The Committee on Ratio of Representation beg leave to report that they have had under consideration the inquiry—whether it would be constitutional and proper for this General Conference to authorize the Electoral College of any district, having a fraction of as many as one thousand persons in full membership, to elect one ministerial and one lay representative to the ensuing General Conference for such fraction of one thousand members:

Let the heading of the article (same page) be changed so as to read, "*Board of Missions*," instead of "*Foreign Missions*," as it now stands.

At the end of fourth paragraph, on p. 73, after the word "expenditures," insert the following paragraph:—

"The Board shall also have authority to establish missionary stations or fields of labor, where they deem it necessary, in destitute and unoccupied portions of the States and territories within this Union, and either within or without the defined boundaries of an Annual Conference, provided, if it be within such boundaries, the consent of such Conference be obtained; and the Board is authorized to make provision for the aid or support of any missionary it may see fit to employ in such field of labor."

Strike out the word "Foreign" where it occurs in the third and fifth paragraphs on p. 73. and in the second paragraph on p. 74.

The Committee recommend to amend the Discipline at p. 72, by striking out the middle paragraph of said page, respecting the Conference Missionary, with the understanding that this act shall not affect the rights or privileges of any Conference Missionary now under appointment in this relation, or until the ensuing session of his Annual Conference.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. H. BASSETT,
JOHN S. REESE,
MATTHEW C. WHITAKER,

CURTIUS JOHNSON,
J. P. JOHNSTON,
J. J. AMOS.

NO. XXIV. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ALLOWANCE.

The Committee of Laymen, to whom was referred, the resolution instructing them to inquire into the propriety of increasing the disciplinary allowance of our Itinerant ministers and preachers, their wives and children, have had the subject under consideration, and recommend the adoption of the following preamble and resolutions.

Whereas the present disciplinary allowance for Itinerant ministers and preachers, is a perpetuation of a regulation made by the M. E. Church more than half a century since, and at a time when money was scarce, provisions and labor were cheap; and whereas the M. P. Church, at its organization established the same low rates of allowance as then existed in the old church, but inasmuch as every reason that then existed for the establishment of such low rates of allowance has long since ceased to exist, especially at this time, when money is more abundant, the price of labor and provisions largely increased;—now in view of all these considerations, and believing that unless a radical change is made for the support of the ministry, it cannot be expected that the work will be carried on with success, but must be greatly embarrassed; therefore,

1st. *Resolved*, That the salary of a single minister or preacher shall be two hundred dollars, and his traveling expenses.

2d. *Resolved*, That the salary of a married minister or preacher shall be three hundred dollars, and his traveling expenses.

And recommend that there be no change in other respects.

H. B. WOODHOUSE, Chairman.

NO. XXV. REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee beg leave to submit the following resolutions on the inquiry submitted to them by the General Conference respecting the evils of slavery.

1st *Resolved*, In the opinion of this General Conference, that the holding of men, women, or children in a state of involuntary servitude, for the purposes of gain, where the civil law will admit of emancipation, and where the interest

Resolved, that this Conference in appointing the ministers and preachers to their field of labor, do make the same in view of stationing them for three years successively, and that no change, under that time, be made, unless the circuits, ministers, or both, desire the same."

The Committee think that, according to the spirit of our Constitution and economy, the subject of appointments should be brought annually before the Conferences, to be disposed of according to the wants, necessities, and interests of the respective circuits and stations, and that they should not be made by one Conference, with a view of continuing beyond the session of the succeeding Annual Conference. They, therefore, recommend that so much of the resolution of the New Jersey Conference, as may be contrary thereto, be annulled.

No. XXXI. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY.

The Judiciary Committee beg leave to report:—

1. A *negative* to the question proposed by S. M. Short, referred to this Committee, because no existing law fairly interpreted authorizes the act. The following is the question, viz: "When a minister or preacher belonging to an Annual Conference has for any cause ceased to be useful or acceptable to the Church, as a minister or pastor, has the Annual Conference a right to transfer him to the unstationed list without his request or his consent?"

2. Your Committee propose to add at page 52, section 19, the following, viz: "And such minister or preacher may be transferred by the Conference to the unstationed list. Nevertheless, no ministers or preachers who in the judgment of the Conference are entitled to a superannuated relation, shall be so transferred."

3. On page 48, sect. 3, add: "Provided, however, that a charge preferred against his moral character shall not prevent the Conference from taking action on his official character."

No. XXXII. REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The Finance Committee, to which was referred a resolution inquiring into the expediency of giving the minister or preacher on a circuit or station a right to act with the Committee of the quarterly conference in determining the allowance for table and other expenses, and also to inquire into the expediency of making the contract between the preacher and the circuit or station binding on the latter, beg leave to recommend that the Discipline be so altered on page 44, 18th line as to read, "the first quarterly conference in each conference year, shall appoint a committee whose duty it shall be to confer with the minister or ministers, and report the sums mutually agreed upon by them as necessary for his or their support."

It is further recommended that the following clause be inserted on the same page after the statement of the items of the allowance. "And this sum, when agreed to by the quarterly conference, the church shall be as much bound to pay as the preacher on his part is bound for the faithful performance of his duties, the contract being binding as other contracts are."

No. XXXIII. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON JOURNALS.

The Committee on Journals report further, that they find a resolution on the Journal of the New Jersey Conference, referred to this conference, to determine whether the resolution be in accordance to Discipline, viz:—

Resolved.—That this Annual Conference will not receive the certificate of

and they are of opinion that it would not accord with the spirit of the Constitution to elect representatives for any fraction of the regular ratio, in any case where the number of persons in full membership already entitles an annual conference to representation in the General Conference, or, in other words, a conference entitled to four ministerial and four lay representatives, and yet having seven thousand members, would not be entitled to an additional ministerial and lay representative for the fractional excess of one thousand members over the regular ratio.

E. Y. REESE, *Chairman*.
THOMPSON HANNA.

No. XXIX. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ORDERS.

The Committee on Orders, to whom were referred certain resolutions from several annual conferences, suggesting an alteration of the Book of Discipline, so as to discontinue the Order of Deacon in our church, beg leave to report that they have had the subject under consideration, and have failed to discover any necessity for such change.

They, therefore, recommend that the discipline in this respect remain unaltered.

They also report in reference to a paper referred to them asking, "When a minister has lost by accident his credentials, and the President and Secretary who had signed them are dead, or out of the church, or removed beyond practicable reach, who shall sign the new credentials?"

We answer, the President and Secretary of the Annual Conference who may grant them, adding upon the back, a note explanatory of the same.

O. H. SHAVER, *Chairman*.
WM. D. WILKINSON,
J. C. WRIGHT,
WM. B. EVANS.

No. XXX. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON JOURNALS.

The Committee on Journals beg to report in part, that they have had under consideration the following named journals.

1. *Pennsylvania*.—In which we find that the Standing District Committee was "appointed by the President of the Annual Conference," which we esteem at least irregular, as the Discipline requires that this committee be elected.

2. "That the President be not censurable for not visiting the circuits and stations during the ensuing year,"—which your committee think conflicts with the Constitution and Discipline, which require that the President of Annual Conferences shall travel, &c., "as far as practicable," &c.

Georgia.—They find, 1853, the following resolution:—

"Resolved, that should the superintendents of the different districts, circuits, and stations of the district, neglect to take up the collection required by the Discipline, to defray the contingent expenses of the Conference, they shall be subject to such punishment as the Conference may deem proper to inflict."

The Constitution and Discipline of the Church provide specific punishments for specific offences, and an accused party is protected from penalties resting in the discretion of the triers. What the Georgia Annual Conference mean by "such punishment as they may deem proper to inflict," the committee are not informed. But the only punishment to which superintendents are subjected to by the Discipline for omissions to perform official duty, is a refusal to pass his official character. As that may have been in the mind of the conference at the time of the passage of this resolution the committee do not recommend any action on the subject.

New Jersey.—That they find on the journal of the New Jersey Conference of March, 1854, the following resolution:—

Resolved, that this Conference in appointing the ministers and preachers to their field of labor, do make the same in view of stationing them for three years successively, and that no change, under that time, be made, unless the circuits, ministers, or both, desire the same."

The Committee think that, according to the spirit of our Constitution and economy, the subject of appointments should be brought annually before the Conferences, to be disposed of according to the wants, necessities, and interests of the respective circuits and stations, and that they should not be made by one Conference, with a view of continuing beyond the session of the succeeding Annual Conference. They, therefore, recommend that so much of the resolution of the New Jersey Conference, as may be contrary thereto, be annulled.

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1. A *negative* to the question proposed by S. M. Short, referred to this Committee, because no existing law fairly interpreted authorizes the act. The following is the question, viz: "When a minister or preacher belonging to an Annual Conference has for any cause ceased to be useful or acceptable to the Church, as a minister or pastor, has the Annual Conference a right to transfer him to the unstationed list without his request or his consent?"

2. Your Committee propose to add at page 52, section 19, the following, viz: "And such minister or preacher may be transferred by the Conference to the unstationed list. Nevertheless, no ministers or preachers who in the judgment of the Conference are entitled to a superannuated relation, shall be so transferred."

3. On page 48, sect. 3, add: "Provided, however, that a charge preferred against his moral character shall not prevent the Conference from taking action on his official character."

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The Finance Committee, to which was referred a resolution inquiring into the expediency of giving the minister or preacher on a circuit or station a right to act with the Committee of the quarterly conference in determining the allowance for table and other expenses, and also to inquire into the expediency of making the contract between the preacher and the circuit or station binding, on the latter, beg leave to recommend that the Discipline be so altered on page 44, 18th line as to read, "the first quarterly conference in each conference year, shall appoint a committee whose duty it shall be to confer with the minister or ministers, and report the sums mutually agreed upon by them as necessary for his or their support."

It is further recommended that the following clause be inserted on the same page after the statement of the items of the allowance. "And this sum, when agreed to by the quarterly conference, the church shall be as much bound to pay as the preacher on his part is bound for the faithful performance of his duties, the contract being binding as other contracts are."

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E. Y. REESE, *Chairman*.
THOMPSON HANNA.

No. XXIX. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ORDERS.

The Committee on Orders, to whom were referred certain resolutions from several annual conferences, suggesting an alteration of the Book of Discipline, so as to discontinue the Order of Deacon in our church, beg leave to report that they have had the subject under consideration, and have failed to discover any necessity for such change.

They, therefore, recommend that the discipline in this respect remain unaltered.

They also report in reference to a paper referred to them asking, "When a minister has lost by accident his credentials, and the President and Secretary who had signed them are dead, or out of the church, or removed beyond practicable reach, who shall sign the new credentials?"

We answer, the President and Secretary of the Annual Conference who may grant them, adding upon the back, a note explanatory of the same.

O. H. SHAVER, *Chairman*.
WM. D. WILKINSON,
J. C. WRIGHT,
WM. B. EVANS.

No. XXX. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON JOURNALS.

The Committee on Journals beg to report in part, that they have had under consideration the following named journals.

1. *Pennsylvania*.—In which we find that the Standing District Committee was "appointed by the President of the Annual Conference," which we esteem at least irregular, as the Discipline requires that this committee be elected.

2. "That the President be not censurable for not visiting the circuits and stations during the ensuing year,"—which your committee think conflicts with the Constitution and Discipline, which require that the President of Annual Conferences shall travel, &c., "as far as practicable," &c.

Georgia.—They find, 1853, the following resolution:—

"Resolved, that should the superintendents of the different districts, circuits, and stations of the district, neglect to take up the collection required by the Discipline, to defray the contingent expenses of the Conference, they shall be subject to such punishment as the Conference may deem proper to inflict."

The Constitution and Discipline of the Church provide specific punishments for specific offences, and an accused party is protected from penalties resting in the discretion of the triers. What the Georgia Annual Conference mean by "such punishment as they may deem proper to inflict," the committee are not informed. But the only punishment to which superintendents are subjected to by the Discipline for omissions to perform official duty, is a refusal to pass his official character. As that may have been in the mind of the conference at the time of the passage of this resolution the committee do not recommend any action on the subject.

New Jersey.—That they find on the journal of the New Jersey Conference of March, 1854, the following resolution:—

of our young State of Iowa will soon see such measures, by special act of the Legislature and otherwise, as will soon have sufficient means under the control of the Institution, that the young men and young ladies of Iowa can obtain their education without having to leave our own State, and going to other parts to make their education complete.

Such is what we need in Iowa, and such is the confidence I place in you, the church. The people here have put that confidence in me, and I have assured them that such it would be, if not it should not be my fault, while I could raise one dollar for the progress of the enterprise.

For further information as for donations and otherwise, I would refer you to my friend, Rev. J. K. Dawson, who is fully authorized, as for donations for Libraries or otherwise, to make for me for the progress of the Institution.

We here soon hope to hear favorable reports from your deliberations.

And believe me to be yours with the highest esteem,

THOMAS PING.

In pursuance of a call of the President of the Iowa Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, of ministers and members of said church, assembled in Ashland, in Wappello county, Iowa, on the 3d day of April, 1854. Whereas, br. J. K. Dawson, H. A. Kirkpatrick, W. S. Scott, Alexander Caldwell, ministers, and br. Israel Young and John Butler, laymen, convened and organized by calling br. J. K. Dawson to the chair, and appointing br. John Butler Secretary, and Israel Young Treasurer. The said company organized for the purpose of taking proper measures to start an Institution of Learning. The said company contracted with Thomas Ping, for a certain building in the town of Ashland for a Church and a Seminary of Learning. Said building is on a sightly situation, of good brick, 30 by 50 feet, two stories high, cupola on the top, a sufficient quantity of land for buildings for preceptors, &c. To pay for said property \$1,250; 500 of it cash down, \$750 in 30 months from date with 10 per cent. Therefore,

Resolved, That we, the Board of Directors, will use all the means in our power to start and have in operation, as soon as possible, a Classical School. On motion J. K. Dawson was appointed traveling agent for said Institution, whose duty it shall be to raise funds for the progress of said Institution, by donations or otherwise, as he may think proper, and transact all business for the Seminary and sell scholarships, and that said br. Dawson be allowed 25 per cent. for all moneys he may raise for said Seminary.

On motion, it be known and designated by the name of the Ashland Seminary of the Methodist Protestant Church.

On motion br. Dawson, our traveling agent, be authorized and empowered to sell scholarships on the following terms: three years for \$50, and five years for \$80.

On motion we adjourn to meet on the 15th of May next at Ashland.

Signed by order and in behalf of Board.

J. K. DAWSON, *President*.

JOHN BUTLER, *Sec'ry*.

No. XXXV. COMMUNICATION FROM OLIVER COX.

To the President and Members of the General Conference of the M. P. Church.

DEAR BRETHREN,—As a member and minister of the Church which you represent, and now in Conference capacity assembled, to deliberate upon the best ways and means for the promotion of Messiah's kingdom, by perfecting as far as practicable the discipline and government of the Church, and also by concert of action to aid in the various benevolent enterprises of the day; allow me, as one who feels deeply interested in the prosperity of our infant Zion, to submit for your consideration a scheme, which, though novel, yet, when thoroughly canvassed, you, in your wisdom, I trust, will approve, and devise means for the carrying of it into practical operation.

The scheme I propose is, that a *Fire Insurance Association* be established, by the *direction*, and under the jurisdiction, of the *General Conference*, for the in-

an applicant which bears a longer date than six months, unless sufficient reasons be given for holding such certificate longer than the above stated time. The validity of this resolution respectfully submitted to General Conference.

J. G. WHITFIELD, *Chairman.*

No. XXXIV. PAPERS REFERRED TO COLLEGE COMMITTEE.

Whereas intelligence is the only basis upon which rests the great edifice of equal rights in State and Church, and this knowledge must begin in the school room, and we in this far Western country, where the masses of population are from every portion of this Union, and from foreign countries, with multitudes of children constantly flowing in among us, feel the great need of school houses and meeting houses, that we may more efficiently establish and advance the true principles of our much beloved Zion in this frontier portion of our labor in the vineyard of the Lord; and whereas there being a proposition made to our church by Mr. T. Ping, of Ashland, Wappello county, Iowa, that if our church would pay him one half the worth of a certain building owned by him, in the village of Ashland, as above stated, suitable for divine worship and education, Mr. Ping would donate the other half the worth of said building to the Methodist Protestant Church, which was estimated at \$1,250, with some thirteen lots added thereto, which proposition our church in Iowa thought proper to accept, (the arrangement and the contract entered into, with the dimensions of the above building, are set forth in the papers presented to the General Conference;) we, the directors of the above building, named Ashland Seminary, do ask the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant church, in session in Steubenville, Ohio, to take our intended little Institution under consideration, and in their wisdom, make such arrangements and pass such resolutions as they may think will best place us before the church and the public, in the most favorable position to obtain the confidence of all who may be disposed to contribute to this important enterprise, and that their contributions will be properly directed to accomplish the object for which it was given.

JOHN K. DAWSON, Agent.

ASHLAND, IOWA, April 24, 1854.

General Conference Methodist Protestant Church.

My beloved friends,—In attempting to address you on such an important subject, and the object I have in view for it, makes me feel as if there would something good result from it.

About the 3d inst., Rev. J. K. Dawson and five other members of the Protestant church assembled in the village of Ashland, and determined to start an Institution of Learning, organized for that purpose, and the interest I have for education caused me to let them have a building of the following dimensions, 30 by 50 feet, two stories high, two rooms in lower story, one room above of good brick, good cupola, and good quantity of land (some 14 or 15 lots,) on a good situation and a healthy part of the county, and for fertility cannot be surpassed. The contract with the Trustees and myself is this: the house will be completed in a short time, except seating, and it is worth \$2,500 cash, I deduct one half the price, \$1,250. They pay me \$500 cash down, and give me their note for \$750 in 30 months, with 10 per cent.

My object in letting them have it is, to get a good Institution of learning started here, and believing the Protestant Methodist Conference will make it an object worthy of their attention, and will take hold of it with the determination of making it a useful enterprise, and if they do, they will soon have the foremost College in the State.

I am very much in need of means to get along in the world with, but I make the large donation of over \$1,250 to the Protestant Church, hoping soon to hear of other donations for the progress of the Ashland Seminary and Church; and believing the church will take hold of it, as the whole depends upon the action of the church. If their action is such as should be, we, the citizens

XXXVIII. REPORT OF CHURCH PAPER COMMITTEE.

The Committee on Periodical and Book Concern, beg leave to report that they have had under consideration the proposition to add to the third section of the article on publishing a weekly paper, page 132, the following:

Who shall in the event of the death, resignation or removal of the Editor, elect an Editor and Book Agent to serve until the session of the General Conference.

We most respectfully recommend the addition as above, believing it to be absolutely necessary.

J. M. FLOOD,
G. VICKERS,
J. L. ARMSTRONG,
I. C. WALLACE,
J. C. WRIGHT,
WM. TOZER,
J. G. WHITFIELD.

No. XXXIX. JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

The Judiciary Committee beg leave to report that the rule on page 66, sec. 5, requires all acts of transgression to be reported to the Superintendent by the Class Leader; that is, on circuits, and to the Leaders' meetings on stations.

Your Committee beg leave further to say that, in our judgment, in all cases of prosecution the intervention of the Leader should be had, to accord with the true intent and meaning of the rule. All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. BROWN,
J. S. REESE,
J. S. ROBINSON,
J. J. AMOS,
J. M. HAYES.

No. XL. CONSTITUTION OF THE MADISON COLLEGE ENDOWMENT SOCIETY.

ARTICLE 1st. This Society shall be entitled the Madison College Endowment Society; and its sole object shall be the permanent endowment of said Institution, so long as it shall remain under the control of the Methodist Protestant Church.

ART. 2d. The officers of this Society shall consist of a President, Vice-President for each Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, a Recording and a Corresponding Secretary, and a Treasurer.

ART 3d. An Executive Committee, consisting of nine persons, shall be annually chosen to conduct the business of the Society.

The President, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries, and Treasurer shall be *ex-officio* members of the Executive Committee.

ART. 4th. An annual meeting of the Society shall be held at Uniontown, Pa., on the Tuesday before the Annual Commencement of the College in each year; when the proceedings of the foregoing year shall be reported by the Executive Committee, and the officers for the ensuing year elected.

ART. 5th. At the Annual Meeting of the Society, the President, or in his absence, the Vice-President first on the list, then present, or in the absence of all the Vice-Presidents, such member as shall be appointed for that purpose, shall preside. The President shall also, when in attendance, preside at the meetings of the Executive Committee.

ART. 6th. The Recording Secretary shall take minutes of transactions of every meeting of the Society and Executive Committee, which shall be read at the succeeding meeting. He shall preserve all papers and records of the Society, except such as belong to the department of the Corresponding Secretary and of the Treasurer; and shall be required to record in a book kept expressly for that purpose, the names of all the members of the Society, with their respective contributions.

surance against fire of church and individual property, at the usual rate per cent. for like insurance. The *modus operandi* of the association to be similar to that of like institutions now in operation; which have fully demonstrated their practicability and great success. The *net proceeds* accruing therefrom to be by the General Conference appropriated to the use and benefit of the church.

To give the many reasons which have commended this scheme to my approval, would trespass upon your time and patience. These I have stated in a former communication for our Church organ, when I first broached the subject for the consideration of Christians, stating then, as I do now, as far as I could investigate and understand the subject, this scheme is in perfect harmony with many monetary institutions now recognized and patronized by, not only our own, but other Christian denominations, such as "Book Concerns," "Church Organs," &c., all resting as they would upon the same basis and recognizing the same object. That course of reasoning which would establish one would strengthen all, or the objections which would destroy the one would demolish the others.

It should also be remembered, this institution would be under the jurisdiction of the Church; and while we have confidence in the integrity, piety, and wisdom of the Church, we certainly can in all institutions under her care and patronage: for, if we can trust the Church with the interests of the soul, the good of which was the *object* of her establishment by God, can we not trust her with the management of any institution as the *means* of its accomplishment?

That you will have time to digest thoroughly this scheme in all its internal and external operations, is more than I can expect, pressed as you no doubt will be with business of great moment. All I could desire or expect is for you to consider the subject in its general bearing respecting its *expediency* and *practicability*, as a scheme connected with the *interests* of the Church; and if by you approved, to lay the *basis* upon which the superstructure can at any future time be erected, and the Church avail herself of the *thousands* she is annually paying into the coffers of different fire insurance companies in this country.

Having thus discharged what seemed to me to have been my imperative duty, praying you may be guided by Divine wisdom in all your deliberations and enactments, and His blessing attend you, I am your fellow-laborer in the vineyard of our Lord.

OLIVER COX.

FAIRFAX Co., Va., May 4th, 1854.

No. XXXVI. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Home and Foreign Missions would state that in their previous report they gave attention to the Memorial from Des Moines Mission, the claims of which have now again been referred to the Committee. The Committee have nothing further to offer touching this matter, unless it be to recommend the adoption of the report of Committee on Boundaries, in reference to the same subject, which they accordingly do.

In reference to the propriety of establishing a mission at Chicago, Illinois, the Committee conceive that this question legitimately and properly belongs to the Board of Missions, who are authorized to establish missions at their discretion.

A. H. BASSETT, *Chairman*.

No. XXXVII. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RATIO.

The Committee on Ratio beg leave to report that, on examination, they find the number of representatives elect to the present General Conference to be over one hundred—the constitutional limit. They therefore recommend to this General Conference the passage of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the ratio of representation from each district shall be one minister and one layman for every 1,750 persons in full membership.

E. Y. REESE,
J. G. WHITFIELD,
T. HANNA.

No. XLIII. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON JOURNALS.

The Committee on Journals beg to report further that, on examination of the Ohio Journals, they find that, in stationing their ministers and preachers, the same minister was appointed three years successively to the *same station*, (Cincinnati,) which we think contrary to the Constitution, (see p. 26, art. 10, sec. 7;) and recommend that it be so decided by the General Conference.

J. G. WHITFIELD,
J. C. WRIGHT,
R. E. GORMAN,
G. VICKERS,

JNO. DAVIS,
W. B. EVANS,
JOHN CLARK,
A. NICHOLSON.

No. XLIV. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The Committee on Finance having had under consideration the letter of Rev. Oliver Cox, recommending that a "Fire Insurance Association be established by the direction, and under the jurisdiction, of the General Conference," beg leave to report that, having had the same under respectful consideration, they deem it inexpedient for the General Conference to act as proposed.

W. W. WALKER, *Chairman*.

No. XLV. REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SLAVERY.

The Committee to whom was referred the Resolution of the North Illinois Conference, (before entered on the Journal,) beg leave to report that, whereas said resolution requires its delegates "to use their best efforts to secure a solemn expression of this General Conference *against* the evils and sinfulness of slavery," the North Illinois Conference not having asked an opinion on the subject of slavery; Resolved, therefore, that this General Conference has no authority in the premises. (Signed)

P. T. LAISHLEY,
FLETCHER TEVIS,
CHAS. W. BUTTON,
JNO. DAVIS.

No. XLVI. MINORITY REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

Whereas the North Illinois Annual Conference have instructed their delegates to the General Conference to secure a solemn expression of that body against the sinfulness of slavery; therefore, Resolved, that in our opinion American slavery is a sin, under, at least, some circumstances.

(Signed)

DANIEL YOUNG.

No. XLVII. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CHURCH PAPER.

The Committee on the Church Paper and Book Concern beg leave to report:

1st. That, having carefully examined the report of the Book Directory referred to them, would recommend its adoption by this Conference as a satisfactory statement, in detail, of the business, and receipts, and disbursements, of the Book Concern and Church Paper. The report shows the concern to be in a healthy financial condition, with increasing prospects of future success and extensive usefulness. Only eight years ago the concern was deeply embarrassed with a debt of \$14,000; but it is now out of debt, with over \$13,000 of assets in possession. Of this sum, \$2,100 are in stock of books and stereotype plates; \$2,800 in books, accounts, and promissory notes; \$7,000 in what are supposed to be available debts due the paper; and \$2,452 cash in hand.

ART. 7th. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Society, and of the Executive Committee; shall preserve all letters addressed to him in his official capacity, and lay them before the Committee.

ART. 8th. The Treasurer shall receive and take charge of all the funds of the Society, and under the direction of the Executive Committee, invest the same in safe and unquestionable securities for the benefit of Madison College, so long as it shall remain under the control of the Methodist Protestant Church, and with a view to its permanent endowment. He shall take charge of all legal papers and documents connected with said investments, and receive five per cent. on all moneys received and invested by him. He shall be required to make an annual report to the Society of all contributions for membership and the disposition made of the same, and acknowledge their receipt, as they come to hand, in the Methodist Protestant Church Organ.

ART. 9th. Each individual paying ten dollars shall be constituted a member of the Society for ten years; or, by paying thirty dollars or more, shall be constituted a member for life.

ART. 10th. The fund raised by this Society, while it is on Endowment for Madison College, is nevertheless to be regarded as a fund belonging to the Methodist Protestant Church; and is to continue on Endowment for said College so long as said Institution may remain under the control and management of said church, and no longer. But then shall continue the property of said church for educational purposes.

ART. 11. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any Annual Meeting of the Society, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at such meeting.

An exact copy from the minutes.

Attest,

G. B. McELROY, Sec'ry.

No. XLI. RESOLUTION OF MAD. COL. ENDOW. SOCIETY.

APRIL 27th, A. D., 1854.

At an adjourned meeting of the Madison College Endowment Society, it was on motion,

Resolved, That the Hon. Andrew Stewart, the Hon. Robert P. Flenniken, and Joshua B. Howell, Esq., be appointed a committee from this Society, to attend the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, shortly to assemble at Steubenville, Ohio, in behalf of said Society, and to represent it and to advance its interests before the said Conference.

A true copy from the minutes.

SAM'L K. COX, Chairman.

Attest, G. B. McELROY, Sec'ry.

No. XLII. PAPER FROM TRUSTEES OF MADISON COLLEGE.

UNIONTOWN, April 27th, 1854.

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of Madison College, the following preamble and resolution were unanimously adopted:

Whereas the Board of Trustees of Madison College have learned that the Madison College Endowment Society have appointed the Hon. Andrew Stewart, (its President,) Hon. Robert P. Flenniken, and Joshua B. Howell, Esq., a committee to attend the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, which will assemble at Steubenville on the 2d day of May proximo—to represent said society before said Conference, and to advance its claims, and such measures as may conduce to its welfare, before said Conference. Therefore,

Resolved, That the same gentlemen, in conjunction with the Rev. George Brown, D. D., and Joseph Phillips, be and they are hereby appointed a committee to represent the Board of Trustees before said Conference.

A true copy of the minutes.

W. D. BARCLAY, Secretary.

No. XLVIII. TREASURER'S REPORT OF MADISON COLLEGE.

1851.	J. L. PHILLIPS, <i>Treasurer, in account with Madison College.</i>	Dr.
Sept. 3.	To Cash of S. Phillips.....	\$5 00
	“ Van Kirk	5 00
30.	“ S. Y. Campbell	10 50
Oct. 1.	“ W. W. Wragg.....	8 50
10.	“ E. D. Bailey.....	8 00
	“ R. Thomas.....	8 00
	“ A. Stewart.....	20 00
	“ D. D. Hughes.....	2 44
	“ C. Hall.....	3 25
Dec. 6.	“ J. Robinson.....	13 00
	“ J. A. Gallagher.....	10 50
8.	“ S. Maquilken.....	4 10
9.	“ G. Mearer.....	4 10
1852.		
Jan. 6.	“ E. West.....	2 65
7.	“ J. M. Stoner.....	12 50
	“ D. Huston.....	23 50
28.	“ J. L. Wortherr	13 50
29.	“ B. Hayden	13 00
	“ G. Brown, for W. J. Willey, P. S.....	50 00
30.	“ P. T. L. Laishley, Agent.....	172 80
	“ J. W. Dugger.....	13 75
	“ M. Baily.....	11 50
31.	“ W. W. Dugger.....	13 75
	“ S. Elder.....	13 00
	“ S. Phillips.....	7 50
	“ C. Hall.....	6 50
	“ T. Wylie	7 50
	“ S. Maquilken.....	1 25
	“ D. Huston.....	23 50
	“ E. H. Grable	10 50
	“ J. H. Deford.....	19 20
	“ J. O. Thomas.....	17 00
	“ N. Brownfield.....	13 00
	“ R. P. Flenniken.....	17 10
	“ H. Patterson.....	11 50
	“ L. Foulter	6 75
	“ Z. Ludington.....	39 00
	“ James Veeck	21 00
	“ J. Dawson.....	10 00
	“ D. H. Austin	21 00
	“ — Ganier	21 00
Mar. 8.	“ L. Springer	2 50
9.	“ E. West	1 30
12.	“ J. H. Deford.....	15 00
	“ A. Patterson	13 00
	“ P. U. Hook.....	26 00
	“ J. M. Stoner	9 60
	“ J. H. Deford	9 60
June 25.	“ A. Hayden	13 00
	“ D. Kaine.....	4 10
	“ F. H. Oliphant.....	20 00
	“ D. D. Hughes.....	4 87
	“ M. B. Brownsville.....	60 00
	“ N. Brownfield.....	23 60
	“ J. W. Phillips.....	23 36
	“ J. Cannon	4 10
	“ A. Patterson	1 50
	“ G. M. Coulter	6 75

On examination of the report, it is ascertained that over 8,000 copies of our Hymn-Book, about 7,000 copies of our Discipline, together with a respectable number of other publications, have been sold during the past four years. The number of subscribers to the church paper is set down at over 4,000. The success of the concern is highly gratifying, yet, in view of our numbers, circumstances, wants, and interests, as a growing and prosperous Church, the patronage of both the book department and the paper should be four or five times what it has been. Extended patronage is highly desirable, and is commended to the serious consideration of the General Conference.

Your Committee have also considered several papers referred to them, some official, and others not official, touching both the periodical and book departments of the Church. The object of these several papers seems to be, to secure an enlarged circulation of our church periodical influence, and the books of our Church, among our people and the community who sympathize with our views and principles. To effect this object it is suggested—1st, to remove the book concern and paper to some other point; 2d, to establish a branch or branches of the book concern at different suitable points; 3d, to establish at proper places book depositories, under definite regulations; and 4th, a reduction in the price of our books. Touching the paper, it was also suggested—1st, to establish another paper, at such point as is deemed most eligible, under the regulation of this General Conference, co ordinate with the Methodist Protestant, but separate and distinct from it; 2d, to authorize one or more Annual Conferences to establish a paper in their own name and upon their own responsibility, proffering funds from the effects of the book concern to aid in the same, and also providing for the dismemberment of such Conference or Conferences from any connection with the Church paper, &c.

This enlarged view of this subject, brought to bear upon the minds of your Committee, induces a majority of them, in view of all the facts, rights, and interests involved, to recommend that any one or more Annual Conferences, on their own pecuniary responsibility, entering into the arrangement, be authorized to establish a weekly paper, of the same size and form of the Methodist Protestant, in the West, at such place as shall be deemed most suitable, to be under the control of such Conference or Conferences as shall enter into the arrangement: provided, however, that the General Conference relinquish all control of the church paper and book concern at Baltimore to the control of the Annual Conferences that may choose to sustain the establishment there. Provided further, that the "Book Concern of the Methodist Protestant Church," at Baltimore, shall furnish our books to a western book depository at cost for cash, or on business-house terms on credit; or the right to publish in the West our Hymn-Book and Discipline.

2d. We recommend that the General Conference take such steps as it may deem best to carry out in detail the plan proposed by your Committee, and to repeal all provisions of the Discipline inconsistent with the proposed arrangement.

3d. A majority of your Committee recommend the restoration to the Hymn-Book of the letters of the compiler and committee, which in recent editions have been omitted.

4th. Your Committee report unfavorably to the proposition of br. Wilkerson, so far as it relates to the Articles of Religion, and favorably to the portion relating to the index to the Discipline. (See paper of W. D. Wilkerson.)

5th. Your Committee report favorably on the paper of br. Southerland, recommending a reduction in the price of our Church literature.

6th. Your Committee also report favorably to the establishment of a Tract Society and Depository, for the circulation of tracts, books, &c.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN SCOTT,
J. G. WHITFIELD,
WM. TOZER,
J. M. FLOOD,

JAS. L. ARMSTRONG,
G. VICKERS,
T. A. REED,
I. G. WALLACE.

Mar. 4.	To Cash of A. Patterson.....	\$25 00
	“ J. Slater.....	20 00
	“ W. Dulany.....	20 00
	“ R. Nairne.....	16 00
	“ R. Hudson.....	100 00
	“ W. Drake.....	25 00
	“ T. Jewell.....	20 00
	“ R. Nelson.....	53 00
	“ — Light.....	15 00
	“ — Hackney.....	20 00
	“ — Wilkinson.....	15 00
April 14.	“ Principal on Maryland Conference P. Scholarship...	151 90
	“ Interest on do.....	43 50
	“ R. Milbourne.....	5 30
	“ J. Rosser.....	22 50
	“ J. H. Deford.....	10 00
	“ J. Robinson.....	12 50
	“ W. A. Crocker, Agent.....	50 00
	“ do. do.....	40 00
	“ Greenawalt.....	20 00
	“ T. M. Dashill.....	24 80
	“ H. F. Pierpoint.....	15 00
June 8.	“ J. Light.....	85 00
	“ G. M. Coulter.....	26 00
	“ J. M. Stoner.....	20 00
	“ F. G. Wright.....	26 00
	“ G. Ullom.....	10 00
	“ D. D. Hughs.....	3 00
22.	“ R. H. Ball, Agent.....	482 70
28.	“ J. Dawson.....	20 00
	“ J. H. Deford.....	24 50
	“ A. Evans.....	10 00
	“ R. P. Flenniken.....	10 00
	“ M. B. Brownsville.....	120 00
Aug. 26.	“ J. E. Gale.....	100 00
	“ G. C. Waddle.....	40 00
30.	“ N. R. Wilkinson.....	10 00
	“ D. D. Hughs.....	15 00
	“ C. Boyle.....	10 00
	“ T. H. Hopwood.....	10 00
	“ J. Kelly.....	20 00
Sep. 25.	“ R. K. Eglehart.....	20 00
	“ J. D. Pretlow.....	20 00
	“ W. Laws.....	6 00
	“ W. W. Dugger.....	20 25
	“ G. Brown.....	13 00
	“ J. M. Stoner.....	20 00
	“ W. Maloy.....	108 25
	“ Dorsey.....	20 00
	“ Ridgeley.....	20 00
	“ A. B. Nairn.....	20 00
	“ H. C. Mackrel.....	10 00
28.	“ G. Brown on P. A. C., P. Scholarship.....	68 00
	“ T. Summerell.....	20 00
	“ W. B. Jeffery.....	100 00
29.	“ H. Dawson.....	20 00
	“ H. Campbell.....	26 00
Oct. 3.	“ R. Cowen.....	10 00
	“ T. Miligan.....	10 00
6.	“ J. T. Whaland.....	10 00
	“ D. W. Bates.....	26 00
24.	“ D. Bailey.....	20 00

June 25.	To Cash of J. Dawson.....	\$9 75
	" E. Campbell.....	5 00
30.	" A. Stewart.....	500 00
	" T. Clocker.....	20 00
	" G. W. Ridgeley	20 00
	" W. Drake.....	20 00
	" F. Pierpoint.....	5 00
	" E. W. Jones.....	10 00
	" J. H. Deford.....	5 00
May 31.	" P. T. Laishley, Agent.....	202 50
Sept. 6.	" J. M. Stoner.....	20 00
7.	" W. W. Dugger.....	20 00
	" J. Lattimere.....	25 00
	" A. Evans	10 00
	" S. Wylie.....	10 00
10.	" S. Summerell.....	20 00
	" J. D. Pretlow.....	20 00
27.	" J. Dawson.....	20 00
	" P. U. Hook.....	20 00
	" N. Brownfield	20 00
Oct. 8.	" J. W. Dugger.....	20 00
	" W. Bankerd	20 00
18.	" J. Gallagher.....	10 00
	" Rev. W. Collier.....	15 00
21.	" J. C. Street.....	20 00
Nov. 13.	" R. J. Boyle.....	12 00
22.	" E. Stephens.....	5 00
Dec. 1.	" T. C. Jennings	5 00
	" W. W. Lee.....	20 00
	" W. McGee.....	6 20
	" R. B. Thompson	11 50
	" F. Jett.....	25 00
	" Mrs. E. Poindexter.....	20 00
	" Aid Society, Lynchburg	20 00
	" Contribution.....	11 12
	" Mrs. M. Purviance	20 00
	" H. F. Woodhouse.....	11 50
	" John Parriss.....	50 00
	" ——— Lansey.....	100 00
21.	" J. H. Deford.....	10 00
' 1853.		
Jan. 3.	" W. W. Wragg.....	26 00
	" T. A. Miligan.....	10 00
11.	" B. Owings.....	25 00
24.	" J. G. Adkins.....	25 80
	" Morees & Williams.....	30 00
	" ——— Iglehart.....	20 00
	" J. W. Rutlege.....	16 50
	" J. F. Crocker.....	60 32
Feb. 1.	" Henry Dugger	100 00
	" J. D. Pretlow.....	20 00
	" D. Huston.....	22 50
2.	" W. W. Dugger.....	20 00
	" J. Kelly.....	21 00
	" W. F. Austin.....	3 00
	" J. W. Dugger.....	20 00
10.	" E. W. Jones.....	6 00
	" E. E. Phillips.....	25 00
	" K. Brown.....	10 00
23.	" T. Summerell.....	20 00
	" E. Stephens.....	10 00
Mar. 4.	" G. Brown.....	7 50

Feb. 1.	By Cash paid Rev. S. K. Cox,.....	\$200 00
1852.	" Rev. F. Waters,.....	202 00.
May 27.	" Insurance.....	10 25
	" J. Diggins, Janitor,.....	13 00
	" Neal Latches,.....	1 14
	" H. Rogers, for Pokers, &c.....	56
	" F. G. Wright, Janitor,.....	22 62
	" J. Stillman, for work,.....	1 50
29.	" Searight and Minor, for Printing,.....	5 00
Nov. 15.	" J. W. Skiles & Co., for Paper.....	4 15
1853.	" L. Vandevear, for Repairs.....	5 00
April 1.	" F. G. Wright, Janitor.....	13 50
	" J. L. Phillips & Co	18 00
	" W. S. Barns, for Repairs.....	76 27
30.	" John Robinson, for Work.....	1 00
14.	" W. Reeves.....	3 00
Sept. 12.	" Assessment on Insurance Policy.....	8 75
1854.	" D. S. Baker & Co.....	3 14
Mar. 17.	" John Jones, for Chemicals.....	48 88
April 24.	" J. L. Phillips & Co.....	3 00
	" Thomas Kelly.....	2 50
	" Isaac Stillman, Janitor.....	24 50
Total.....		\$6,499 26

No. XLIX. REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee would respectfully report:—

1. On the communication from br. R. T. Boyd respecting the election of delegates to the General Conference, your Committee report that the plan proposed would be inexpedient.

2. On the plan of electing quarterly stewards in the respective classes, your Committee report adversely.

3. On the paper submitted by br. J. S. Smith, on rules of order for the government of deliberative bodies, your Committee report negatively.

Z. RAGAN,
THOS. A. REED,
S. M. SHORT,
J. J. SMITH.

No. L. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CHURCH PAPERS.

Your Committee, to whom was referred the paper of br. J. S. Smith, relating to the preparation of an alphabetical index to our Discipline, report favorably, and recommend that the book directory be requested to prepare such an index, according to the accompanying plan, to be inserted in the future editions of our Book of Discipline.

JNO. SCOTT, *Chairman.*

No. LI. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS.

The Committee on Statistics would express regret that a number of the Annual Conferences receive but imperfect returns of the statistics of their respective districts, and that a number of them neglect to publish their statistics with their annual minutes, as required by the Discipline.

The Committee, not being able to obtain the data from those districts whose representatives have failed to reach this General Conference, have sought information from representatives from adjoining districts, and have in several instances been compelled to use the entries made in a previous year, and even in some cases, those made at the last General Conference.

The Committee conceive that the attention of Annual Conferences should be called to the importance of collecting and publishing annually their statistics,

Oct. 24.	To Cash of E. Loockerman.....	\$5 00
	" D. Huston.....	23 00
	" Huskins.....	5 60
	" G. W. Thorndell.....	5 00
	" N. B. Wilkinson.....	10 00
	" E. W. Jones.....	1 00
Dec. 12.	" J. Robinson.....	12 00
20.	" T. K. Dashill.....	23 20
	" G. Ullom.....	7 50
	" E. E. Phillips.....	23 60
29.	" R. H. Ball, Agent.....	32 50
1854.		
Jan. 3.	" E. Y. Reese, Trustee.....	60 00
	" W. Reeves, Agent.....	60 00
	" J. F. Phillips.....	20 00
	" O. B. & J. Doss.....	43 60
23.	" P. U. Hook.....	25 00
28.	" W. D. Barclay.....	5 00
	" J. Beeson.....	10 00
	" E. Brownfield.....	5 00
	" J. McKean.....	5 00
	" J. H. Deford.....	20 00
	" D. Smith.....	10 00
	" J. B. Miller.....	10 00
Feb. 1.	" J. O. Berry.....	10 00
	" W. Reeves, Agent.....	30 00
6.	" D. P. Newson.....	20 00
	" T. M. Dashill.....	40 40
7.	" J. D. Pretlow.....	10 00
9.	" J. M. Stoner.....	20 00
11.	" N. Wilkinson.....	20 00
	" J. T. Whaland.....	10 00
	" J. J. W. Powell.....	50 00
	" Maj. W. Laval.....	99 69
	" — Kirkwood.....	25 90
	" — Iglehart.....	20 00
	" H. C. Mackrel.....	10 00
	" J. G. Whitfield, Agent.....	144 55
Mar. 7.	" W. A. Crocker, Agent.....	140 10
16.	" H. Campbell.....	10 00
	" W. W. Dugger.....	20 00
	" J. Delk.....	68 40
April 6.	" J. Cassel.....	10 00
7.	" W. Reeves, Agent.....	277 60
1852.		
Sep. 20.	" Of P. A. Conference, P. Scholarship.....	98 40
Total.....		\$6,737 45

1852.

CR.

July 1.	By Cash paid R. H. Ball, as per vouchers.....	\$1003 00
1853.		
April 1.	" " " " "	736 44
1853.		
June 30.	" J. F. Crocker,.....	1060 00
1854.		
Feb. 1.	" W. T. J. Carroll,.....	1211 66
	" G. B. McElroy,.....	844 40
	" A. Mott,.....	351 00
	" Rev. G. Brown,.....	150 00
	" M. A. Newell,.....	400 00
	" E. P. Oliphant,.....	75 00

At the fifth General Conference, 1850, we had thirty-two Annual Conferences, and 64,219 members.

At the present (being the sixth) General Conference, we have thirty-four Annual Conferences, including one Mission Conference, and 70,018 members.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. H. BASSETT,
WM. TOZER,
JOS. ASHTON,

No. LII. REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON BOOK CONCERN.

PART FIRST.

The Special Committee to whom was referred the subject of defining and regulating the details of the plan for getting up a Western Paper and Book Concern, and the withdrawal of the control of the General Conference from the Methodist Protestant and Book Concern at Baltimore, beg leave to report that, having had the same under calm and thoughtful consideration, your Committee recommend—

I. The Western establishment shall be called the "WESTERN METHODIST PROTESTANT BOOK CONCERN."

II. To provide for the establishing, and regulating, and governing of the Western Methodist Protestant, &c., the following plan is recommended, to wit:—

1st. The Annual Conferences that agree at their next annual sessions to enter into the plan, shall elect as many ministers and as many lay members as they are respectively entitled to representatives in this General Conference, who shall meet in convention at Zanesville, Ohio, on the first Wednesday of November next.

2. The Convention shall organize by appointing a President and Secretary, and shall publish its proceedings in the Western Recorder.

3. The members present at the Convention shall have power to determine upon the place at which the paper, &c., shall be located; to elect the Editor and Book Agent, prescribe his duties and fix his salary; and to determine upon the size, form, price, and character of the paper; and also to take whatever legal steps may be necessary to procure a charter to hold and regulate the control of the property; and to make regulations for the election, term of office, and accountability of the Editor and Book Agent; and, finally, to make whatever regulations and arrangements may be necessary for the government and management of the Paper and Book Concern, so as to bring them under the control of such Conferences as may have entered into the plan, or may thereafter enter into said plan, and to make any other regulations that may be deemed necessary to carry out and accomplish the great objects had in view in the establishment of said Paper and Book Concern.

4. Assuming that the ten Annual Conferences embraced within the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Iowa, enter into the plan, as above, the Book Directory is hereby directed to pay out of the funds and assets of the Book Concern at Baltimore the sum of two thousand dollars to the Agent who may be appointed by the above-named Convention to receive the same; provided, however, if any one or more of said Conferences shall refuse to enter into the above plan, and shall concur in the plan of sustaining the Methodist Protestant, the sum to be paid to the Agent above-named shall be less \$2,000, in proportion to the size of said Conference or Conferences; providing that the sum shall not be less than \$1,500. And providing also that if Annual Conferences not included in the above-named States shall enter into the plan, the sum shall exceed \$2,000, in proportion to the size of said Conference or Conferences, to the amount of \$2,500,—it being definitely understood and agreed by the foregoing ratio of calculation, that the sum to be paid to the Western Methodist Protestant and Book Concern shall not be less than \$1,500 nor more than \$2,500 in any event. And it is also definitely understood and agreed by all concerned, that when said sum is duly paid to the above named agent, it shall be acknowledged as payment in full of all claims upon the Methodist Protestant and Book Concern at Baltimore.

for the information of the church. Let the editors of our church papers be requested, from time to time, to remind and prompt them in reference to this disciplinary duty.

The following tabular exhibit is as full and as accurate as the means within our reach have enabled us to make it.

Statistics of the Methodist Protestant Church.

Annual Conference Districts.	Sta'ns.	Circ.	Mis-sions.	Itin'r't Minis. & Pre'	Unsta'd Mins. & Preach.	Memb's	Houses of Wor-ship	Pars'n-ages.	Esti'd val. of Church Property.
Maine,	—	6	—	10	4	500	1	1	1,800
Boston,	13	—	—	11	3	426	13	—	22,100
N. Yrk. & Verm't	8	17	5	28	33	1,609	37	6	70,000
Onondaga,	1	19	3	44	27	1,308	8 $\frac{3}{4}$	6	11,100
Genesee,	1	13	1	18	13	925	9	3	12,100
New Jersey,	1	7	2	11	16	702	10	—	8,000
Pennsylvania,	—	7	1	8	14	555	5	—	4,100
Pittsburg,	8	30	8	59	68	6,066	66	6	121,725
Muskingum,	6	29	7	56	66	6,100	126	9	70,855
Ohio,	5	26	9	60	70	5,689	91	12	101,250
Michigan,	1	19	7	47	28	1,469	6	—	4,800
Indiana,	1	11	5	22	24	2,031	25	—	13,000
Wabash,	—	8	3	20	17	1,014	10	2	4,925
Illinois,	—	14	3	17	26	1,264	17	4	14,500
North Illinois,	2	23	—	43	33	1,549	12	15	12,550
South Illinois,	—	12	—	15	20	1,264	10	4	3,670
Iowa,	—	8	3	19	10	800	1	—	2,000
Maryland,	14	28	4	66	74	6,746	165	46	348,000
Virginia,	3	12	8	37	25	4,729	51	1	44,750
North Carolina,	1	12	3	41	21	5,397	66	—	22,080
South Carolina,	—	6	—	9	6	733	10	—	30,000
Tennessee,	1	5	3	17	11	1,800	12	—	10,000
West Tennessee,	—	4	4	20	10	908	24	—	3,500
Georgia,	3	18	2	55	12	3,162	25	1	5,000
Florida,	3	—	3	12	1	800	11	—	5,400
Alabama,	5	17	2	39	50	4,375	91	2	44,500
Huntsville,	—	6	1	9	13	1,000	—	—	—
Mississippi,	1	10	3	33	21	2,421	38	—	5,570
Missouri,	—	7	2	18	6	1,800	—	—	—
Platt,	—	7	6	15	12	650	1	—	1,000
Arkansas,	—	10	—	15	11	880	10	—	3,000
Louisiana,	—	6	1	13	7	676	20	—	10,000
Texas,	—	8	4	22	5	550	—	—	—
Oreg'n Mis. Con.	—	—	—	7	—	120	1	—	1,000
Total.	78	405	103	916	767	70,018	982	118	1,009,275.

The following statistical statement, respecting the history and progress of our religious denomination, noted by quadrennial periods, will be regarded with a degree of interest.

At the time of the first General Conference, 1834, there were connected with the Methodist Protestant Church, fourteen Annual Conferences, and 26,587 members.

At the second General Conference, 1838, we had sixteen Annual Conferences, and 27,948 members.

At the third General Conference, 1842, we had twenty-one Annual Conferences, and 53,875 members.

At the fourth General Conference, 1846, we had twenty-six Annual Conferences, and 63,567 members.

That the Book Directory, as soon as practicable after the report of the said commissioners, procure an amendment to their charter, or a new charter, which shall in all respects provide for the effectual carrying out and perfecting this arrangement, and the regulations and plan adopted by the said commissioners. In the event of absence of any of them, their votes may be cast by any authorized proxy.

The Committee report that the following section, No. 24, on page 53 of the Discipline, be stricken therefrom to adapt it to the changes made:—"It shall be the duty of the respective Annual Conferences, to forward to the editor of the Methodist Protestant, post paid, such extracts from their minutes annually as they may deem proper for publication."

The Committee have, as far as practicable, ascertained the names of the Annual Conferences that are pledged by their representatives in this General Conference to the plan and arrangement agreed upon. They are as follows: Maryland, Virginia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, West Tennessee, Boston, Missouri, and Pennsylvania

No. LIII. REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Whereas, at the General Conference of 1846, there was some modification made in the law bearing upon Home Missionaries; and whereas it is believed that the intention of that General Conference was to accommodate the views and feelings of certain churches who considered the "Restrictive Rule" as oppressive and injurious to their spiritual interests; and whereas it was the design of that General Conference to accommodate any churches similarly situated; and whereas conflicting views and feelings have, since, been entertained with regard to said laws; therefore, *resolved*, that the following additional modification be made on page 71 of the Discipline:

"Each Annual Conference shall have authority to employ and appoint ministers and preachers to serve as Home Missionaries in any portions of its district, for the purpose of preaching the Gospel therein, and raising societies under the Constitution and Discipline of this Church," &c.

Your Committee, to whom was re-committed that part of the Executive Committee's report relating to striking out sec. 5 of the article entitled Leaders' Meeting, (page 42,) would recommend the striking out of all of said section, and insert the following in section 3, on page 35, under the title of Admission to Membership, viz: "in stations and missions," &c.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Z. RAGAN,
T. A. REED,
J. J. SMITH,
S. M. SHORT.

No. LIV.—REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools beg leave to report that, having carefully examined, and considered the several papers referred to them, they do not deem it necessary that any further disciplinary regulation should be made. The rule of Discipline, page 62, requiring superintendents to organize Sabbath Schools, at each appointment on their charge, and report to the ensuing Annual Conference the number of Sunday Schools, superintendents, teachers, scholars, and volumes in the libraries, is, as we think, equally as good an arrangement as could be adopted for the promotion of this very important interest. Your Committee are happy to be able further to state that, so far as they have been able to obtain information, there is a widely extended and increasing interest taken by the ministry and membership of this branch of the Church of Christ, in the promotion of this truly praiseworthy and heaven favored institution, which has for its object the intellectual, moral, and religious culture of the rising and future generations of children and youth. Yet notwithstanding this laudable zeal hitherto manifested, it is thought by the Committee that it may be at once prudent and profitable, once in four years, to stir up the pure minds

5. And if said Convention shall determine to publish our Church Hymn-Book and Book of Discipline, the Book Directory at Baltimore shall make over legally to such Agent as the above-named Convention shall appoint, full authority to do the same.

6. Assuming that the Muskingum and Ohio Annual Conferences concur in the plan, your Committee recommend that George Clancy, of the Muskingum, and J. M. Flood, of the Ohio Conference, be appointed commissioners to negotiate with Rev. A. H. Bassett for the purchase of the Western Recorder, upon such contract as shall provide for the delivery of possession to such Agent as may be appointed by the above named Convention to receive the same; and for the payment, at such time as the funds are paid over by the Book Directory at Baltimore.

7. So far as your Committee is prepared to report the certain and probable concurrence of the respective Annual Conferences, the lists will stand thus: for the *Western Methodist Protestant*, Muskingum, Ohio, Wabash, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, North Ill., and South Ill., Iowa, Genesee and Onondaga; twelve.

8. It is also suggested that in the event any of the members which may be elected to the above Convention to meet at Zanesville, are prevented from attending in person, said member or members shall have the right to cast his or their vote for the location of the establishment and for Editor, by proxy or by letter.

PART SECOND.

The Committee beg leave further to report that it be ascertained what and how many Annual Conferences, through their delegates present, will enter into the arrangement to support the Methodist Protestant, and that the General Conference recommend said delegates to elect their editor for that paper forthwith, for the next two years: That the Annual Conferences sustaining, or may hereafter sustain said Periodical and Book Concern, be recommended at their next session to appoint two commissioners, one minister, and one layman, from each Annual Conference, to assemble in general meeting in the city of Baltimore, on the 1st Wednesday in June, 1855, who shall have power to mature a permanent plan for the future management and control of the said paper and Book Concern in said city. That until the details shall be agreed upon by the said commissioners, the said Periodical and Book Concern shall be subject to the same regulations of the Book Directory and the Maryland Annual Conference, as prescribed in the Discipline, when under the control and direction of the General Conference, so far as they shall be adapted to the present plan; that until the commissioners shall report, the paper shall be conducted upon the same general principles, and subject to the details, prescribed in the Discipline; a sound discretion being exercised by the editor.

That the duties, compensation, and privileges of the editor in employing a clerk, shall be the same as provided in pages 132 and 133 of the Book of Discipline; that the Book Directory shall exercise the same power in relation to the publication of advertisements as they recently did under the Disciplinary regulations, and that they be hereafter exempted from reporting their accounts, minutes, or proceedings, to the General Conference, but in lieu thereof shall report them to the Annual Conferences sustaining the Methodist Protestant and Book Concern under the present arrangement.

That the interests of the respective Annual Conferences entering into this plan, in the Methodist Protestant and Book Concern, shall be in proportion to the amounts received from their Districts, taking as a time for determining such receipts, the first day of July, 1850, as the period from which the estimates are to be made; and the commissioners who may meet in Baltimore to decide upon the plan of the Paper and Book Concern, shall in counting the votes given on any question be governed by the principle or ratio of representation established by this General Conference: and provided, further, that the necessary expenses of the said commissioners shall be paid by the Book Agent, out of any funds belonging to the said concern, and the Book Directory and editor shall furnish said commissioners with a summary of said receipts from the first of May, 1850, to the first of May, 1855, distinguishing them as in the table annexed to the Report of the Book Directory to the General Conference, at its present session.

ment of the college, by the sale of perpetual and limited scholarships, by the procurement of donations, and by the organization of the "Madison College Endowment Society," all have our most hearty approbation. These plans, we think, will work well together; but the "Endowment Society" plan appears to us to give the greatest promise of more immediate success. We commend all these plans to the favorable consideration of our entire fellowship; and we do so under a conviction that a competent endowment is essential to the permanency of the Institution, and that, were an endowment secured, we could then do a noble part in the gratuitous education of deserving young men who lack means to educate themselves. Why shall not our College be a blessing to the poor, as well as to the rich?

As many of the Annual Conferences have not, by any official act, or by sending students, or by the contribution of funds, "entered into this College arrangement," but hitherto, from some cause, have stood aloof from this literary enterprise, your Committee think that their delegates should not control, by their power in this body, the destinies of an institution of learning to which they have not yet made themselves parties. We shall rejoice to see these Conferences, in some way, come "into the arrangement," and employ all their energies in behalf of the College.

Our church is yet young; her means are not as ample as are the means of some of the older denominations; but still, among our people there is wealth enough to accomplish all educational purposes. As a Church, we go for religious and ecclesiastical liberty—yes, and literature too—why not? Each of these will help the other, and all together, be immensely valuable to the church and to the world.

We were late in receiving the Report of the Treasurer of the Board, and regret to learn that ill-health prevented him from making so full and perfect a report as this General Conference thought it had a right to expect. According to his report, \$20,200 have, by various plans of operation, been secured to the College; and of this sum, \$6,737 45 have been received by the Treasurer, and the sum of \$6,499 26 have been paid out—leaving in the Treasury a small balance of \$238,19. This report, to have been entirely satisfactory, should have shown how much of the funds secured to the College was obtained in each of the several Annual Conferences.

By the last of June next it is expected that the improvements in the building will be entirely completed, so that ample and comfortable accommodation for over 250 students will be afforded, all of whom we hope will be there.

We forbear to recommend the election of the Rev. S. H. Cox, according to the petition of the students, as that might seem to be an invasion of the right and duties of the Board of Trustees, but are free to express the gratification it would afford us if he be elected to that position.

In view of all the facts connected with the history of Madison College, since it has become a Methodist Protestant Church Institution, we have abundant cause of gratitude and praise to Almighty God, whose providence has evidently placed the church in this position of privilege and usefulness, and whose divine favor has rested upon our efforts, and crowned them with such signal success. Here is an Institution in the successful tide of efficient operation with an average of 90 students, and looking forward to a large increase. Here our sons from all quarters of our Zion may come and be thoroughly educated by our own Professors and Teachers, and be qualified to take their proper position in the world without having their prejudices and attachments drawn away from the church of their fathers, as is too often the case when educated at other colleges. What Methodist Protestant in all our borders but will rejoice at so great a privilege as this, and give his countenance and zealous support to an Institution which supplies so grand a desideratum in the Methodist Protestant Church. In conclusion we submit the following resolutions:

Resolved 1st, By this General Conference, that the past efforts of the Trustees and Faculty of Madison College, to advance the interests of said Institution, meet our entire approbation; and the success which has attended those exertions, together with a glorious revival of religion among the students and citizens, is matter of thanksgiving to God.

Resolved 2d, That we commend said College, with all its interests, to the favorable consideration of our entire fellowship in these United States, as

of our entire connexion by way of remembrance. We therefore recommend for your adoption the following resolutions :

1st. *Resolved*, By the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, that the American Sunday School Union very justly ranks among the foremost moral and benevolent institutions of the day, furnishing, as it does, an extensive, cheap, and wholesome literature, wisely adapted to the states of childhood and youth, and in its wide-spread work of faith and labor of love it is entitled to the sympathies and hearty co-operation of evangelical Christians.

2d. *Resolved*, That we recommend to the several Annual Conferences to make any arrangement which in their judgment may seem proper, for the purpose of giving efficiency to the Sabbath School enterprise within their respective bounds.

Your Committee on Sabbath Schools respectfully ask leave to report that, having duly considered the paper referred to them from the Maryland Annual Conference recommending the publication of a Catechism for the use of the Methodist Protestant Church, your Committee, report favorably, and recommend that the Book Directory at Baltimore be authorized and requested, so soon as practicable, to publish the Catechism of the British Wesleyan Methodist connection, with such change of title page, &c. as will accommodate it to the use of the Methodist Protestant Church.

J. M. FLOOD,
JOHN BURDINE.

NO. LV. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MADISON COLLEGE.

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the Trustees of Madison College, Uniontown, Pa., ask leave to make the following report:—

After due examination of the report and accompanying papers, submitted to the Conference by the Board of Trustees of said College, we find that institution to be in a healthy and prosperous condition. The Board of Trustees has managed the affairs confided to them in a manner well calculated to sustain the interests of the Methodist Protestant Church. There is in that institution an able and trust-worthy faculty—gentlemen of fine scholarship, and first rate moral character, every way qualified to instruct the youth of our church and country in whatever belongs to a classical and Christian education. And the number of students—the high moral character given of them—their orderly deportment, fine progress in learning, and above all, the glorious revival of religion, which has made so many of them subjects of saving grace, are all subjects of unspeakable gratification to your Committee.

The legal control of Madison College, according to the 8th Article of the Charter, is exclusively in the Board of Trustees. That article reads as follows:—"That all the property belonging to the Union Academy, in the Borough of Uniontown, Fayette county aforesaid, of whatever nature the same may be, whether real, or personal, or mixed, which hath been given, conveyed, devised or bequeathed to the Trustees for the benefit of that institution, shall be vested, and hereby is vested in the Trustees of the college aforesaid, known and declared by the name of Madison College, and their successors in office, subject always, nevertheless, to the uses, trusts, ends, and purposes for which the same property was originally given, conveyed, devised or bequeathed."

Now since about three-fourths of the whole number of the members of the Board have been legally put into office, by an arrangement entered into by our General Conference, it follows conclusively that this college is in the hands of the friends of the Church, and can always be made to subserve her interests, *and is emphatically a Methodist Protestant College*. It would likewise follow with equal conclusiveness, that the control of this General Conference over that institution of learning must be simply and exclusively advisory in its character, i. e. our counsel may be expected at all times so to influence the Board of Trustees, as to induce that body to carry out into actual accomplishment the views and wishes of this General Conference.

The various efforts made by the Board to accomplish the permanent endow-

annual Conferences in the East and South; thereby setting up two separate and antagonistic interests and views in the church.

He further protests against the consummation of this act, for the following reasons :

1. Because he believes it a virtual dissolution of our church fellowship; in this, that it was not concealed that the moving and main cause of the separation grew out of the fact that the Editor of the Methodist Protestant would not allow the agitation of the Slavery Question to be discussed in that paper, especially in refusing to publish one or more of the resolutions of the North Illinois Conference, in which they asserted that slavery was sinful, and that no slaveholder should be entitled to church membership.

2. Because the undersigned was a member of the first committee that acted on this subject, and now states that the first proposition of the Western members on that committee, was to establish a General Conference paper in the West, similar to the Methodist Protestant, which should be untrammelled, and in which the subject of Slavery might be freely discussed. To this the undersigned objected, because of its tendency to alienate the feelings of brethren from each other; but at the same time gave his assent to allow them their full share of the fund now accumulated in the Book Concern at Baltimore, if they desired to set up such a paper on their own responsibility; or that, if they would not agitate the subject of Slavery in it, he had no objections against its becoming a General Conference paper. Both of these propositions were rejected, and they then insisted that if they could not have a Conference paper untrammelled; neither should the Methodist Protestant be a Church paper; and this was the final agreement between a majority of the Committee, and was so reported to Conference.

3. Because, upon a final vote on this scheme in the General Conference, the plan was adopted; thus making the General Conference a cipher in the affairs of the Church—shorn of its chief attribute of sovereignty and power, by placing the same in the hands of irresponsible agencies, as to it, and these placed in different localities, will array themselves against each other as gladiators in fighting the battle for and against slavery.

4. Because, in thus encouraging and laying the foundation of disunion and division in the Church, it will still add to the difficulties of preserving our glorious political Union.

JAMES L. ARMSTRONG.

No. LVII. NEW EDITION OF HYMN BOOK.

Whereas it is believed our Hymn Book could be materially improved by a suitable and judicious revision, (and some abridgment that would not affect its general circulation and usefulness might also be made,) which would enable the Book Concern to furnish it to the Connection at a price much less than what has heretofore been charged. Therefore,

Resolved, that John Burns, of the Muskingum District, Thomas H. Stockton, of the Pittsburg District, John G. Whitfield, of the Va. District, A. H. Basset, of the Ohio Conference, Josiah Varden, E. Y. Reese, Luther J. Cox, of the Maryland District, and J. J. Smith, of New York, be and they are hereby constituted a Committee, who shall, or a majority of them, at their earliest convenience, assemble in the City of Baltimore, and revise and alter said Hymn Book, in such manner as they may deem advisable and proper; and the Book Directory are requested, as soon as practicable, to issue a new edition, the right of publishing the same being also secured to the Western Book Concern.

Resolved, 2. That in case of the death, resignation, or refusal to serve, of any member or members of the Committee, the Book Directory shall fill the vacancy, or vacancies; and the Book Agent is authorized to pay the expenses of distant members of the Committee who may attend for the purpose.

No. LVIII. BOUNDARY LINE OF WEST TENNESSEE DISTRICT.

Resolved, That the lines bounding the West Tennessee District, as designated by the Tennessee Conference at its Annual Session in 1851, be in all things ratified and confirmed, so as to run as follows, to wit:

being in a healthy location, surrounded by good society, under the direction of an able and reliable Board of Trustees, and a Faculty every way competent to impart a full course of classical instruction to the youths of our church and country.

Resolved 3d, That we agree in opinion with the Board of Trustees, "that the speedy endowment of Madison College is not only desirable, but essential to its permanence, and to enable it to take that position which a reasonable expectation would assign it, as the central College of the Meth. Prot. Church."

Resolved 4th, That the *Madison College endowment plan* has the approbation of this General Conference, as well as the perpetual and limited scholarship plan, and that we hereby solicit all our Annual Conferences to take official action favorable to both these plans, for endowing the College. And we ask the hearty co-operation of all our ministers, members and friends, in the several Districts, Circuits, Stations and Missions of the Methodist Protestant Church, in these United States, in this enterprise.

Resolved 5th, That we recommend to the members and officers of the Madison College Endowment Society, at their earliest convenience, to take measures to obtain a charter for said society, and to elect Vice Presidents only in those Conferences that enter into our College arrangements.

Your Committee have also read and attentively considered the papers presented to the General Conference by the Rev. J. K. Dawson, relative to the establishment of an Institution of learning in Ashland, in the State of Iowa.

We are rejoiced to perceive that our brethren in that District are taking so lively and becoming an interest in educational matters, and that a kind Providence seems to be opening a way of prosperity and success to them in this respect. We do most cordially wish they may reap the full fruit of all their toil and prayers in this connection.

We learn from their papers that they are not in possession of the means which are necessary to enable them to pay for the property they have purchased, and to carry out fully their noble enterprise; and that they have appointed and authorized the Rev. J. K. Dawson, as their Agent, to solicit donations, and sell scholarships for the permanent establishment of the Institution.

Resolved, Therefore, that this General Conference regards with much satisfaction the efforts of our brethren in Iowa, to establish the "*Ashland Seminary of the Methodist Protestant Church*," and recommend to the favorable consideration of our brethren and friends, their Agent, the Rev. J. K. Dawson.

Your Committee are informed that 700 or 750 unbound volumes of "Snethen's Sermons, have been kindly donated by Rev. Ulysses Ward, for the benefit of Madison College; and the question is submitted to the General Conference, "what is the best disposition to be made of those Sermons, to answer the benevolent design of the donor?" We report the following resolution upon the subject:

Resolved, That this General Conference recommends the Board of Trustees of Madison College, to have the volumes of Snethen's Sermons bound and offered for sale, and to appropriate the profits, if any, according to the design of the donor.

Respectfully submitted,

R. B. THOMSON,	} Committee.
GEORGE BROWN,	
D. C. CARSON,	
JOHN WEBB,	
E. Y. REESE,	
D. B. DORSEY,	

No. LVI. PROTEST OF J. L. ARMSTRONG.

The undersigned, a lay representative in the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, from the Tennessee District, begs leave to enter his protest against the action of the said General Conference in establishing a separate interest in the West, by allowing and authorizing all such Annual Conferences as desire it, to put up a separate Periodical Paper and Book Concern, to be under their jurisdiction and patronage, and distinct from the controlling influence of the General Conference; and also to divorce the present Church Paper and Book Concern, from its jurisdiction and control, to other